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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

LORD DERBY has apparently not found it a very easy matter to organise a Government; and if the time taken to form the new Cabinet were any guide as to its probable duration, it ought to last a very long time. But it cannot stand permanently unless it introduces some kind of reform bill; and on this subject it will find itself in the same sort of difficulty as the Government of Earl Russell. It will not be able to satisfy a majority of the House, and at the moment of division will be deserted by many of its own supporters. The Tories of 1815 were called by M^{de}. de Stael "the Whigs of the Continent;" and the Conservatives of the present day are, at least, more liberal than the Conservatives of fifty years since. Indeed, as everyone knows, they have openly recognised the necessity of a reform bill in the most unmistakable manner by introducing one themselves. Only, it is now understood that if the British Constitution is to be reformed at all it may be reformed in two ways, either so as to admit a greater number of probable Conservatives, or a greater number of probable Liberals, within its pale; and it is evident which of these two courses a Conservative Government would pursue. It is now not a question between stagnation and activity, between change and no change; it is a question as to the direction in which activity shall be exercised: as to whether the

electoral laws shall be changed so as to increase the number of Conservative or the number of Liberal voters.

Oddly enough, the Conservative bill of 1859 was, in some respects, and theoretically speaking, a more Radical measure than the one whose rejection by the House of Commons caused the Russell Ministry to resign. For all Lord Russell proposed was to lower the property qualification of electors, whereas Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli were in favour of introducing an entirely new principle of qualification. It was quite a new idea, with none of those historical precedents in favour of it to which Conservatives love to turn, to make the right of voting a reward of merit to be awarded (like the prizes for virtue given away in France) to workmen who had attained the position of foremen, or to men of all classes who happened to have put by £50 in the savings bank. Mr. Bright once suggested, humorously enough, that the man who had saved £50 might have done so by neglecting grave duties—such, for instance, as that of supporting his aged parents. We are afraid that much wealth is gathered together, not only by leaving undone those things which ought to be done, but also by doing those things which ought not to be done. Nevertheless, on the whole, it is a fair principle, and one recognised by every Government in the world, that political power shall be placed

in the hands of those who possess something, and not in the hands of those who possess nothing. The great objection to the £50 savings bank clause was, that it would have opened the door to any number of sham qualifications. The great objection to the whole bill, which will, no doubt, be urged against it, if it is brought forward again in a more or less modified form, is, that it did not provide in an adequate manner for the introduction of a new class of electors.

Two well-informed correspondents, one writing to the *Times*, the other to the *Daily News*, seem convinced that the French Emperor—that is to say, France—will interfere to protect the Italians in case they should be definitively worsted by the Austrians and pursued into the territory of the Italian kingdom. This places Austria in a most painful position, and will, no doubt, increase the sympathy which, for the first time during the last half century, is felt for that Power in England. However, we must not forget, if Austria is already attacked by two, and before long may find herself opposed to three, strong Powers, that the odds against Russia during the Crimean War were not three, but four to one. Nevertheless, the general sympathies of liberal Europe were with the allies against Russia; and, if the Austrians have no business in Venetia, or have only the same right to be there that the Russians have to be in Poland, we



FROGMORE HOUSE, THE FUTURE RESIDENCE OF PRINCESS HELENA AND PRINCE CHRISTIAN.

must wish to see them driven out, in spite of the stipulations of the treaty of 1815. The great hardship for Austria is that, whether her arms are successful or unsuccessful against the Italians, she is almost certain now to lose her last Italian province. If the Italians beat her, they take Venetia as a matter of course. If she beats the Italians, then King Victor Emmanuel calls in his big brother, the Emperor of the French; and it would be strange if France, Italy, and Prussia together could not, without actually capturing the Venetian strongholds, so distress Austria as to compel her to give them up.

Then, although Venetia would no longer be governed by Austrians, but by Italians, it is by no means certain that it would form part of united Italy. Indeed, it seems probable that in the event of Venetia being rescued from Austria through the aid of the French, France would strike a very hard bargain indeed, and, instead of helping to complete the unity of Italy, would insist on its being disunited. A paragraph has appeared in the French *Presse*, to which great importance is attached just now, supporting the well-known Imperial idea of an Italian federation. The writer maintains what Englishmen will not be at all unwilling to admit, though very few of them know anything about the matter, that Lord Russell is the real author of Italian unity. It was not from love to Italy, but from jealousy of France, the writer goes on to say, that Lord Russell, through Sir James Hudson, encouraged Garibaldi to seize Naples, and the forcible annexation of the kingdom of Naples to that of Italy is condemned as a measure executed in opposition to the counsels and interests of France and in violation of the Treaties of Villafranca and Zurich, in which the principle, not of Italian unity, but of Italian federation, is laid down.

It is possible, then, that, in a high political sense, neither Austria nor Italy, but only France, may profit by the present Austro-Italian war. The inhabitants of Venetia will, no doubt, be happier under Italian than under Austrian government; but they will not be allowed—if the French can prevent it—to form part of a powerful Italian State; and it is possible that a system of decentralisation, equivalent to a political disunion, may be insisted upon in the Italian kingdom as now constituted, as one of the conditions of French assistance.

It is difficult to imagine King Victor Emmanuel acceding to such terms as these; but they may be forced upon him in spite of himself. His great and immediate object is, of course, to put in action the proud boast, which hitherto has been a boast and nothing more, "*L'Italia fara da se*;" but if his first attack upon the Austrians, with its unfortunate result, is to be taken as a specimen of what the succeeding ones are likely to be, Italy will do nothing of herself, and must either invoke French aid or be content to remain within her present boundaries.

In Germany the Prussians seem to be beating the Austrians at all points. Telegrams differ on the subject of pitched battles, but they agree in representing the Prussians as advancing and the Austrians as retiring. Prussia, too, has gained some moral success; and the Liberals in many countries unaffected—at least, for the present—by the war are declaring in her favour. The inhabitants of the States she has invaded—except, of course, in the Austrian empire itself—do not seem to be at all indisposed towards her armies; and she is trying to produce an impression that, while making war upon a certain number of small German Princes, she is the friend everywhere of the great German people.

FROGMORE.

FROGMORE HOUSE, of which we this week publish an Engraving, is intimately associated with Royalty, for it was long the residence of the amiable Queen Adelaide, in her widowhood, and is now again to renew the old connection with Royalty as the home of Princess Helena and her husband, Prince Christian. Frogmore is a pleasant spot in itself, and has an additional recommendation for the purpose it is now to be appropriated in its close vicinity to Windsor Castle; for, we presume it as easy to go through the fields to Frogmore now as it was in the days of Falstaff and the "Merry Wives," and her Majesty and the Princess will thus be able to see each other frequently.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor still remains in Paris, and was unable to accompany the Empress in a visit to the hospitals the other day, "in consequence of affairs of State." The affairs of State referred to are supposed to be the affairs of Europe, which are engrossing his Majesty's attention.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday morning makes the following announcement:—"An important event has just occurred. After having maintained the honour of his arms in Italy, the Emperor of Austria, concurring in the ideas expressed in the Emperor Napoleon's letter of the 11th of June to his Minister for Foreign Affairs, cedes Venetia to the French Emperor, and accepts his mediation for the conclusion of peace between the belligerents. The Emperor Napoleon hastened to respond to this summons, and immediately communicated with the Kings of Prussia and Italy in order to obtain an armistice." The *Moniteur du Soir* of the same day in its military bulletin says:—"It is known that the proposal for an armistice has been made, and hopes are entertained that negotiations for peace will be opened under the mediation of the Emperor." *La France* of the same evening says:—"At three o'clock this afternoon the French Government had not received any reply from Florence or Berlin to the proposal of an armistice."

The Session of the Corps Législatif was closed on Saturday last, in a brief speech by Count Walewski.

PRUSSIA.

If we may judge from the returns to hand, the Conservatives of Prussia have made a decided gain in the late elections. The choice of members for the Chamber of Deputies is complete, and the number of Conservatives returned is decidedly larger than in the last Parliament.

BAVARIA.

The Bavarians have attacked the Prussian outposts near Barchfeld. On the Prussian side one man and two horses were killed. The Bavarians left on the field one man killed, two officers and two men severely wounded, and fifty muskets.

ITALY.

Garibaldi and his volunteers appear to have attempted, on Tuesday, to force their way into the Tyrol by the pass on the right bank of the Chiase river. At Monte Suello they came upon the enemy, and a brisk fight ensued. The ammunition of the volunteers had, however, been spoiled by the rain, and they were driven back, leaving some killed on the field. Garibaldi himself received a slight wound in the thigh.

At the ceremonies held on the occasion of the Feast of St. Peter, the Pope renewed his protest against the annexation to Italy of the provinces formerly belonging to the States of the Church.

SWITZERLAND.

At the opening of the Federal Chambers M. Planta, the President of the National Council, said:—"Let us commence our labours with absolute confidence, based upon the intimate union of the people and magistrates, who are resolved to defend the position given to Switzerland by history and treaties."

AMERICA.

The American news, which is up to the 23rd of June, is of a somewhat stirring character. The trial of Fenians was proceeding at Montreal. It was generally believed that those caught in the act of firing on British troops would be hung. A great Fenian mass meeting was being organised, but the authorities had interdicted it.

The Fenian President Roberts had had interviews at Washington with Senators Wilson, Wade, Nye, Grinnell, Colfax, and others. Roberts was introduced on the floor of the Senate by Senator Wilson, of Massachusetts. In the evening Speaker Colfax introduced him to the Soldiers' Fair. James Stephens had declined offers of similar introductions.

The President had sent a message to Congress throwing a doubt upon the reconstruction resolutions being in harmony with the sentiments of the people, and pressing upon the Legislature not to finally decide until loyal members from the now unrepresented States are admitted.

The Canadians have demanded indemnity from the United States Government on account of the late Fenian filibustering proceedings in Canada.

From Mexico it is reported that the Imperialists are abandoning important points in the interior of the country, and that the Emperor Maximilian was in a state of great financial distress.

THE WAR IN GERMANY.

The accounts of the fighting between the Prussians and Austrians in Bohemia and Silesia vary according to the source whence they come. The Prussians claim victories at all the points at which they came into contact with the Austrians, whereas the latter declare that their enemies were defeated in at least one important engagement. The facts, however, that the Prussians have steadily, though slowly, advanced, and that General Benedek, for "strategical reasons," has retired to a position between Josephstadt and Koniggratz, and that the Crown Prince and Prince Frederick Charles have effected a junction, would seem to indicate that the Prussians, if checked at all, have not been seriously obstructed. The subjoined accounts of the several combats are from the letters of correspondents with the Prussian army:—

THE BATTLE OF NACHOD.

In every war since club-law has governed the world there have been occasions when each party has laid claim to the honour of the victory. In such cases a close observer only can decide whether an advantage has been gained by one side or the other, and a step made towards carrying out their respective plans of operation. On June 27 one army corps of the Crown Prince—the 5th, or Posen, Corps, commanded by General von Steinmetz—fell in with the Austrians at Nachod, on the Silesian frontier, twenty-five miles west of Glatz. Like some others which followed in its wake, this corps had entered Bohemia both by way of Braunau and Reinerz, with orders to move on to the fortress of Josephstadt by the famous pass of Nachod. The losses in this first encounter were not inconsiderable on either side, and it seems that both succeeded in taking some guns. At the close of the day the Prussians, as well as the Austrians, maintained their previous positions, a portion only of the latter retiring to Josephstadt, being replaced by fresh troops. On the day following General Steinmetz ordered a second attack. Fortunately, he had been reinforced in the night by a division of the 1st, or East Prussian, Corps, being this time confronted by two Austrian corps of the full complement of 60,000 men. The battle lasted several hours, terminating with the retreat of the Austrians and the occupation by the Prussians of Skalitz, the next station on the road to Josephstadt. About 3000 Austrians were taken prisoners, and nearly as many lay dead or wounded on the battle-field. On each side some ninety guns had been at work. The Austrian cavalry was repeatedly routed by the Prussian lancers, losing all their standards, and eventually abandoning the field to the victor. As to the Prussian infantry, it relied as usual upon the rapidity of its fire, the three ranks discharging at once, the first kneeling down; the Austrians, on the other hand, with the impatient temper of Slavonian races, and wishing to make up for the inferiority of their gun, had recourse to bayonet charges. But long before they could attain the Prussian ranks their number, under the volleys from the needle-gun, was so thinned as to cause the remnant to turn about and fall to the rear. With true Austrian perseverance they came on again and again. The result was terribly identical in each case. In one instance only did they succeed in crossing arms with the inaccessible enemy. One Prussian regiment agreed to cease firing to give the Austrians a chance of measuring their strength in cold steel. It was one of those cool and habitually taciturn regiments from the far north, who during the last few weeks had been a wonder and an ever-recurring grievance to the loquacious race inhabiting the pleasant and fertile valleys of Silesia. Uttering savage yells, the Slavonians rushed forward. The Germans presented their bayonets, and in a moment, when the first shock had been encountered, cast away their muskets, drew their swords, and fought man to man in the good old fashion. There are few cases on record where the Germans have really warmed to their work on the battle-field while confined to shooting and stabbing. Shooting leaves them indifferent; the bayonet they positively hate, having an indefinite feeling that it is not a legitimate weapon of warfare, but a sort of long stiletto; while if you give them a sword, the heavier the better, they are in their own element, and need no instruction as to how to lay it on effectually. To indulge their battering inclination, the Prussian soldiery formerly used to reverse their muskets, and belabour the foe with the butt-end, a process far too energetic to employ with so delicate an instrument as the needle-gun, which would fall to pieces on the second blow. So nothing remains but to draw the sword; and although it is said to be a little too short and a great deal too light to suit the taste of the men, still, as it is the nearest approach to a club within their reach in this civilised age, they prefer it in an emergency to Brown Bess. In the present combat its efficiency in their hands was fully proved. After a few moments of slashing right and left, the Slavonian bayonet yielded to the German sabre. On the evening of that day the Prussians were no further than ten miles from Josephstadt.

COMBAT AT LIEBENAU.

The head-quarters of the first army halted at Reichenberg on the 25th to allow the cavalry that came by the Friedland road, which had covered the march of the column, to come in. During the day the outposts were pushed forward, but the Austrians were not felt.

The road from Reichenberg to Türrnau crosses a range of hills which separates the valley of the Upper Neisse from the country beyond, and drops down from this range by some sharp zigzags to the valley in which lies the village of Liebenau. This village is built on the banks of a stream which forms a defile through a second range of hills lying between Liebenau and Türrnau. This rivulet, in the part of its course above the village of Liebenau, runs at right angles to the defile, and forms a valley between the two hills which lie north of Liebenau towards Reichenberg, and those which lie to

the south towards Türrnau. The railway from Liebenau to Türrnau passes through the defile formed by the stream which runs through the village; but the road turns to the left and ascends the southern range, passing, near the top, between a steep cutting through rocks. This cutting is about 100 yards in length, and here the road is only about 30 ft. wide. The hills are on their side covered with thick plantations of fir-trees; but when the traveller leaving Liebenau has by the road gained the summit of the range which lies south of the village, he finds before him a wide plateau extending for about two miles in the direction of Türrnau. This plateau was, on the morning of the 26th ult., covered with high-standing crops of wheat and barley, already whitening for the harvest. The road runs through the corn-fields, and at the end of the plateau drops down by a gentle slope into the valley of the Iser. From the brow of this slope Türrnau can be seen lying in the river towards the left front. The schloss of Sichrow, standing on the very edge of the Liebenau defile, is directly on the right, and the view to the front is bounded by the fir-clad and fantastically rocky hills which form the southern boundary of the valley of the Iser, while on the left the church of Gentschowitz stands raised on a knoll above the general plain, and looking down upon the orchards and cottages of the little hamlet which clusters round its foot. Between the bottom of the slope which falls from this flat plain into the valley of the Iser and about half-way between the foot of the hill and the river itself there runs a low range of hills, having an elevation considerably inferior to that of the plateau. On this lower range, immediately surrounded by orchards, but in the midst of a wide-stretching corn-land, lies the village of Dauby. On the night of the 26th the Prussian advanced posts were pushed forward to the tops of the range of hills which bound the valley of Liebenau on the north. This morning General von Horne, who with the eighth division held the outposts, had advanced early to occupy Liebenau. As his advanced guard entered the village, the Austrian rearward were discovered tearing up the pavement, in order to form a barricade across the narrow street through which the high road runs. On the approach of the advanced guard they retired to the hill over which the road to Türrnau passes south of the village. Here the Austrians took up position; their artillery, placed on the brow of the hill, looked down upon the village of Liebenau, which Horne had just occupied, and their cavalry covered the guns. But they were not in force. They had no infantry, and their whole strength appeared to be only four regiments of cavalry, with two batteries of horse artillery. Horne's division passed through the village and began to ascend the hill, while General von Haun came down to Liebenau with the cavalry, and the field artillery took up a position on the hills which bound the Liebenau valley on the north. Thus the guns of the Austrians were on the southern, those of the Prussians on the northern range, which form the valley of Liebenau; the valley between them is about 600 yards wide, and there seemed to be an opportunity for a smart combat. Down in Liebenau, between the opposing batteries, were the wings of Horne's divisions, and columns were already issuing from the village, making their way along both the railway and the chaussée, while the skirmishers were getting among the short spruces, firs that clothe the hill beside the road.

A little before nine o'clock Prince Frederick Charles and his staff came upon the hill where the artillery was placed. It was almost exactly nine o'clock when a flash of fire, with a heavy puff of white smoke on the Austrian hill, showed that their artillery had opened, and a rifle shell came whistling over the heads of Horne's division. The Prussian artillery answered, and for a few minutes the hills echoed with the noise of their rapid discharges; while the smoke, drifting but slowly on the lazy breeze, hid from sight the opposite guns, though the quick reports and the whistling of the shells told that they were not idle. But the Prussian guns were too numerous; Horne's division was pushing up the hill, and the Austrian artillery had to retire. Then the Prussian cavalry pushed forward by the road, and in a short time eight fine cavalry regiments were formed on the northern edge of the plateau. The Thuringian Uhlans, the Uhlans of the Prince of Hohenlohe, and the dragoons of the Prince of Mecklenburg were extended to the left; while the Brandenburg hussars of Ziethen, conspicuous by their red uniform, were nearer the road. On the right of the cavalry was the horse artillery, and Prince Frederick Charles, himself a cavalry officer, was in the front.

The retreat of the Austrians could be traced by the broad paths trampled down in the corn, and every now and then they halted, their artillery came into action, and two or three rounds were fired at the forming lines. When Prince Frederick Charles had completed his dispositions he ordered the advance, and the troops pressed forward. The cavalry and artillery moved on the plateau, while Horne's infantry, on the right, made for the schloss of Sichrow and the woods around it. The cavalry pushed on quickly, and the guns moved well with it, but every now and then halted and came into action. The Austrians, inferior in numbers, and already retiring, could not hope to stand against the force thus displayed, and they drew quickly over the plateau, making for the hills of Dauba. Three regiments of cavalry were launched after them, and went dashing through the corn, but did not reach the retiring troops before the latter had quitted the plateau, and then the woods and broken ground on the side of the slopes impeded their progress. As soon as the Austrians gained the Dauba hills their artillery opened and poured shells briskly into the advancing lines; but the gliding motion of the advancing troops and the undulating ground deceived their aim, for only about twenty casualties occurred. When the Prussian guns gained the southern brow of the plateau they opened on the Austrian batteries. A smart cannonade ensued, but the Austrians were ultimately silenced. Yet they did well, for they made good their retreat; but had not the Prussian horse been detained by having to pass through the narrow street of Liebenau, the field artillery which fired into the Prussian ranks would probably have gone as a trophy to Berlin.

FIGHT AT PODOILL.

The railway and high road which lead down the valley of the Iser from Türrnau to Münchengrätz run for a distance of about five miles from the former town on the north side of the river, but on reaching the village of Podoll cross to the south bank by two bridges, which are about 200 yards distant from each other, that of the railway being on the right, and that by which the road crosses on the left of a person looking towards Münchengrätz. The railway bridge is constructed of iron; that which carries the road across the stream is made of wood, and lies on a level with the causeway, which is raised on an embankment about 10 ft. above the flat meadows lying alongside it. The Iser is at Podoll near upon 100 yards wide, and runs with a deep but fast stream between steep banks, which only rise about 4 ft. above the level of the water. By the side of the road and on the banks of the stream grow large willow-trees, planted at equal distances from each other, and at about ten yards apart. Three roads lead from the plateau of Sichrow to the high road that runs down the valley of the Iser. That on the east, a country road, which leaves the plateau near the schloss of Sichrow and joins the highway near the village of Swierzin, almost at an equal distance between Türrnau and Podoll; in the centre the chaussée from Liebenau strikes into the high road half way between Swierzin and Türrnau, and the road from Gentschowitz, on the west, joins it close to this town.

On the evening of the 26th Prince Frederick Charles threw a light pontoon-bridge over the river, a little below the broken bridge of Türrnau, and occupied the town with a small force, without opposition. Horne's division marched at the same time by the country road on the east, occupied the village of Swierzin, and pushed its advanced guard towards Podoll. The troops directed on this point consisted of two companies of the fourth Jäger battalion, the second and fusilier battalions of the 31st Regiment, and one battalion of the 71st. The Jägers, who were leading, got to within three quarters of a mile of Podoll Bridge before they came into collision with Austrian outposts; but here they found the enemy, and a sharp action ensued, for the Austrians had six battalions in the village, and meant to hold the place and cover the passage of the river.

It was about eight o'clock, and the dusk of the evening was rapidly closing in, when the Jägers first felt their enemy. On the

right-hand side of the road, about half a mile before the bridge, stands the first house of the village. It is a large square farmhouse, with windows without glass, but with heavy gratings. The Austrians had occupied it in force, and their outlying pickets, as they retired before the advancing Prussians, formed line across the road beside it. As soon as the Jägers came within eight the garrison of the farmhouse and the formed-up pickets opened a bitter fire upon them. From the grated windows and from the line of soldiers in the road there came one rapid volley, which told severely on the Prussian riflemen; but these went quickly to work, and had fired about three times before the Austrians, armed only with muzzle-loading rifles, were able to reply. Then the noise of musketry rose high, occasionally swelling into a heavy roar, but sometimes falling off so that the ear could distinguish the separate reports. But this did not last. Major von Hagen, commanding the second battalion of the 31st, which was following the Jägers on the first sound of the firing, had put his troops into double quick time, and was soon up to reinforce the riflemen. It was now nearly dark, and the flashes of the rifles, the reports of the shots, and the shouts of the combatants were almost the only indications of the positions of the troops; yet it could be seen that the rapid fire of the needle-gun was telling on the Austrian line in the road, and the advancing cheers of the Prussians showed that they were gaining ground. Then while the exchange of shots was still proceeding rapidly between the window-gratings of the farmhouse and the Prussian firing parties who had extended into a corn-field on the right of the highway, there was a sudden pause in the firing on the road; for the Jägers, supported by the 31st, had made a dash and were bearing the Austrians back beyond the farmhouse to where the cottages of the village closed on each side of the road, and where the defenders had hastily thrown some hewn-down willow-trees as a barricade across the way.

Then the tumult of the fight increased. Darkness had completely closed in and the moon had not yet risen; the Prussians pressed up to the barricade, the Austrians stoutly stood their ground behind it, and, three paces distant, assailants and defenders poured their fire into each other's breasts. Little could be seen, though the flashes of the discharges cast a fitful light over the surging masses; but, in the pauses of the firing, the voices of the officers were heard encouraging their men, and half-stifled shrieks or gurgling cries told that the bullets were truly aimed. This was too severe to endure. The Prussians, firing much more quickly, and in the narrow street, where neither side could show their whole strength, not feeling the inferiority of numbers, succeeded in tearing away the barricade, and slowly pressed their adversaries back along the village street. Yet the Austrians fought bravely, and their plans for the defence of the houses had been skilfully though hastily made; from every window muske's flashed out fire, and sent bullets into the thick ranks of the advancing Prussians, while on each balcony behind a wooden barricade Jägers crouched to take their deadly aim; but in the street the soldiers, huddled together and encumbered with clumsy ramrods, were unable to load with ease, and could return no adequate fire to that of the Prussians, while these from the advantage of a better arm, poured their quick volleys into an almost defenceless crowd.

As the battle in the street was pushed inch by inch towards the Iser, the Austrians, in every house which the foremost ranks of the Prussians passed, were cut off from their retreat, and were sooner or later made prisoners, for the houses of the village do not join on to each other, but are detached by spaces of a few yards, and there is no communication from one house to the other except by the open street. The whole of the Prussian force was now up, and, extending between the houses which the first combatants had passed by, cut off the escape of their garrisons, and exchanged shots with the defenders.

With shrieks and shouts, amid the crashing of broken windows, the heavy sounds of falling beams, and the perpetual rattle of the firearms, the battle was heavily pressed down to the narrow street, and about half-past eleven the moon came up clear and full to show the Austrian rearmost ranks turning viciously to bar the Prussians from the bridge. The moonlight, reflected in the stream, told the assailants that they were near the object of their labour, and showed the Austrians that now or never the enemy must be hurled back. Both sides threw out skirmishers along the river bank, and the moon gave them light to direct their aim across the stream; while on the first plank of the bridge the Austrians turned to bay, and the Prussians pausing some short paces from them, the combatants gazed at each other for a few moments. Then they began a fiercer fight than ever. The discharges were more frequent, and in the narrower way the bullets told with more severe effect. Herr von Drygalski, leading the fusilier battalion of the 31st, a Lieutenant-Colonel of only two days' standing, went down with two bullets in his forehead, and a Captain at his side was shot in both legs. Many men fell; and the grey horse of a Prussian field-officer, with a ball in his heart, fell heavily against the wall, kicking amid the ranks; but he was soon quieted for ever, and at that moment men regarded but little such wounds as could be inflicted by an iron-shod hoof, even in the agonies of death. The Austrians stood gallantly, and made an attempt to set fire to the bridge; but the difference of their armament again told upon them here; and it is said that, galled by their hard fortune, they charged with the bayonet, but that the Prussians also took kindly to the steel, and this charge caused no change in the fortune of the fight. Certain it is that the defenders were ultimately obliged to retire across the bridge.

While this combat was proceeding slowly along the street, another fight was carried on upon the railway almost with an equal progress and with an almost similar result. A party of the Austrians fell back from the point where shots were first exchanged, and where the railway crosses the road, along the line. They were pushed by some Prussian detachments, but neither side was here in strong force, and the principal fighting was done upon the road; and here too, the needle-gun showed its advantage over the old-fashioned weapon of the Austrians, for the latter fell in the proportion of six to one Prussian. The railway bridge was not broken, but the lines were torn up by the retreating troops, and the line is now not passable by trains. The Prussians pushed over both bridges after the retreating Austrians; the latter threw a strong detachment into a large unfinished house, which stands by the chaussée, about a quarter of a mile beyond the bridge, and again made a stand, but not of long duration; they had lost many killed, wounded, and prisoners; many of their officers were dead or taken; but they stood till they could gather in all the stragglers who had escaped from the houses of the village, and, harassed by the pursuing Prussians, drew off, sullenly, by the main road to Münchengrätz. Thus terminated a contest which, fought upon both sides with the greatest vigour and determination, yet resulted in a clear victory for the Prussians; for when the last dropping shots ceased, about four o'clock next morning (the 27th), there were no Austrian soldiers within three miles of Podoll Bridge, except the wounded and the taken. There was no artillery engaged on either side; it was purely an infantry action, and the Prussians derived in it great advantage from the superiority of their arm over that of their opponents, not only in the rapidity but in the direction of their fire.

THE AUSTRIAN ACCOUNT.

The following is Marshal Benedek's second report of the battle of the 27th:—

TO COUNT VON CRENNVILLE, FIRST AIDE-DE-CAMP TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR.

Head-quarters, Josephstadt, June 28.

To complete my telegraphic report made on the evening of the 27th respecting the combats of Podoll and Skalitz, I have the honour to inform your Excellency of the events which took place at Trautenuan on the 27th. The report of the 10th Corps d'Armée only reached me at half-past one in the morning. At six in the morning of the 27th the brigade of Col nel Mondel, forming the advance guard of the army which was marching on the side of Schurz, made an attack upon Trautenuan, which was in possession of the enemy. The fight was sharp, and by degrees all the troops of our corps d'armée were engaged in it. According to the prisoners, the enemy brought successively into action three brigades of the 1st Corps d'Armée to hold his position. After a fierce and bloody battle, Trautenuan was in our possession at 8.45, though at nine o'clock, when the report was sent to

me, there was still some slight firing going on. The 10th Corps d'Armée established its position at Trautenuan, but Field Marshal Lieutenant von Gablenz, having been confidentially informed that the enemy detached a strong brigade, about four o'clock in the afternoon, towards Eipel, to threaten his flank and rear, left a single brigade at Trautenuan, and with a view of meeting the enemy on that side, occupied with the remainder of his troops the heights situated directly to the south of Trautenuan, which the enemy did not dare to attack.

GREAT BATTLE NEAR KÖNIGGRÄTZ.

The great decisive blow has been struck, and the fortune of war has once more declared in favour of Prussia. The bold conception and consummate execution of their far-sighted plan of campaign and the results of a long series of bloody encounters had, at the close of last week, enabled the Prussian Generals to mass their forces on the plain of Bohemia, and to press close upon their enemy, who, after disputing the ground, inch by inch, along every avenue of that mountain-girt kingdom, had fallen back, foiled at all points, yet turning to bay on his last vantage-ground on the Elbe between his two strongholds of Josephstadt and Königgrätz. A pause of three days seems to have been allowed to the combatants on both sides. Finally, on Tuesday, the first Prussian army, under Prince Frederick Charles, advancing from Gitschin on the road that, by Chlum and Horitz, leads to Sadowa, and the second army, under the Crown Prince, crossing the Elbe to meet them, drew up all their combined forces, under the immediate command of the King—an array, it is said, of no less than eight army corps—on some point near Königgrätz, between the right bank of the Elbe and the left of the Bistritz, a minor tributary stream which runs parallel to the main river from Horitz to its confluence with it. Marshal Benedek, aware that the decisive moment had arrived, issued forth from Königgrätz, apparently with only five army corps, but choosing, as was natural with a man who stood on his own ground, a most advantageous position. The battle-field is described as being near Horitz, near Sadowa, near Königgrätz; the fighting raged, probably, from one end to the other of all that vast tract of country. The battle lasted twelve hours. For six hours the Austrians defended a strong position they had chosen behind the Bistritz; but it was taken by storm towards two o'clock, and by seven in the evening the defeat of the Austrians was complete. The earliest Prussian bulletins of the same evening, at eight and eleven o'clock, already claimed a victory, and spoke of their army as close in pursuit of their routed enemies. By later accounts, dated Thursday, we are told that 116 guns were taken, and no less than 14,000 Austrian prisoners had already been brought in. By their own admission, the Prussians purchased their triumph at a very heavy price; all their corps were brought into action, and all suffered severely. The Austrians had opened negotiations for an armistice.

SURRENDER OF THE HANOVERIAN ARMY.

The 28th ult. witnessed the surrender of the Hanoverian troops near Langensalza, in the Prussian province of Saxony. They would have been hewn to pieces had they hesitated any longer to lay down their arms. The troops to whom they gave themselves up as prisoners of war were Pomeranian Landwehr and the contingents of the Dukes of Coburg-Gotha and Altenburg. The men will be paroled and sent home; the officers retain their swords, and are allowed half-pay out of the Hanoverian revenue; the King and Crown Prince have their private property left to them intact; and, on condition of undertaking nothing to the prejudice of the Government during the war, may choose their place of residence anywhere out of Hanover.

REFORM DEMONSTRATIONS IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

In our last week's Number we gave an account of a Reform demonstration which took place, in Trafalgar-square, on the evening of Wednesday week. We now publish an Engraving showing the scene presented on the occasion. The meeting at that time was adjourned to the evening of Monday last, when another gathering took place on the same spot. As the description of these meetings given by our daily contemporaries vary greatly, according to the political bias of the respective journals, it may be proper to state that we copy the following report of Monday night's proceedings from the *Telegraph*:—

By invitation of the Reform League, some thousands of persons, principally belonging to the artisan class, assembled on Monday evening round the Nelson Monument, to vindicate the right of public meeting and to show the true state of popular feeling and opinion at the present critical period of national affairs. Without venturing a guess at the actual number of those who composed the meeting, we may say truly that it was as great as it could very well be. Authorities who have gained their experience from the frequent sight of large masses in the north of England as well as in London and elsewhere, estimated this Trafalgar-square crowd very variously—their figures ranging from 12,000 to 20,000. Fewer than 12,000 there could not have been; and it is not by any means certain that more than 20,000 did not at one time darken the "finest site in Europe." Every scrap of flagged space was completely filled, and on all points of elevation where human beings could cluster they clustered; so that really the practical way of solving the question would be similar to that suggested by one of the historical managers of Drury Lane, who told John Kemble that nothing could be easier than to find the exact capacity of that theatre if the great actor would only play Hamlet in it. Trafalgar-square was full; the attraction of 'Gladstone and Liberty' had filled it; and an accurate measurement of the area will settle the point of numbers to a nicety. Not quite, perhaps. There were unexpected vantage-grounds where hundreds found a place, and stood or clung with marvellous patience and with admirable disregard of danger. As for thronging the base of the column, where the four lions ought to be, that was a bagatelle. Many ardent spectators and listeners had actually got among the bronze reliefs, and had mixed themselves up with figures of colossal size and tawny hue. One man, sitting on the brawny shoulder of an ideal and consequently half-naked seaman, placed his shirt-sleeved arm affectionately round the brazen neck. Every sculptured form with half its trunk or one of its limbs brought out in alto, supported two or three living pygmies, as they seemed by comparison to be; and one daring climber sat upon the very head of Lord Viscount Nelson in the group which fills the panel facing eastward. The slippery edges of the basins were occupied by a chain of people, who balanced themselves somehow on the smooth, rounded granite; and every stone post in the long row in front of the National Gallery had a workman standing, statue-like, thereon, if not a group of two or three. Touching the right of anybody to mount the sacred base of the Nelson Monument or to pose himself on a vacant pedestal in Trafalgar-square, it may be remarked that little boys of no decided politics do as much all day long, without let or hindrance from the guardians of public art. Long before Mr. Beales and his friends arrived yesterday on their appointed platform, the gamins of Charing-cross had been playing "follow my leader there," and had not been ordered down by the mild but firm policeman.

So large an outdoor gathering will necessarily include many social elements; but there could be no serious question that the main character of this immense crowd was industrial. There were roughs, and loafers, and mischievous boys, without a doubt; as there were members of Parliament and persons of high grade hovering on the skirts of the wide-spreading mass. The proportion, however, of well-dressed, yet unmistakably genuine working men, was that of ten to one at least; and the testimony of the police will be unreservedly in their favour. Indeed, these working men acted as their own police. They did not, as they at first had some thought of doing, wear any distinguishing badge; but they had a sign, or pass-word, and they kept together, so that the least symptom of disorder could be easily and instantly checked. One solitary member of the real police force came upon the scene; and this was the superintendent of the A division, who quietly patrolled outside the border of the meeting, and never encountered the faintest sign of discourtesy. The only thing like disturbance was the hunting of two Italians, one wearing a Garibaldian shirt, by a small and excited body of Irish Roman Catholics. The threatened men took sanctuary in Scotland-yard, where they found all the protection they needed. It was not till after the opening of business that two processions of workmen

from different parts of the town came, with their bands of music, upon the scene. Their flags and banners were presently raised above the heads of the speakers and the chairman of the meeting, amid cheers which completely silenced the instruments.

Shortly before eight o'clock Mr. Edmond Beales, M.A., president of the Reform League, and a number of other members, walked from the offices, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, to Trafalgar-square. They were received with loud cheers, and, although there was a dense crowd round the Nelson monument, a way was soon made for them, and they mounted the broad step which forms the plinth.

Mr. Beales, having been formally elected as chairman, proceeded to address the immense assembly; but, although he spoke as loudly as possible, his voice could only be heard by comparatively few. He said he congratulated them upon the fact that, according to a great Parliamentary authority, they had put London into a state of siege (Cheers). He thought, after that testimony being borne by their enemies, there need be no fear of any talk about the indifference of the people respecting reform (Cheers). He had not taken any part in this out-of-door agitation before, because, after what had been said, that they did not care about reform, he wished to see them stirring themselves, and he wanted it to be shown that the movement was their own (loud cheers)—that it was the deed of the working classes. He congratulated them upon the success of their agitation—(cheers)—which they had made under the captaincy of Mr. Lucraft and his lieutenants (Hear, hear). But when he (Mr. Beales) heard a rumour of its being intended to interfere with the exercise of the right of great Constitutional rights of meeting in public to discuss political grievances, then he considered it was his duty to be at his post, and there he was—(loud cheers)—after giving full notice to the authorities that it was his intention to be there (Tremendous cheering). And here was the answer—an important answer—which he had received:—

"Whitchall-place, July 2, 1866.

"The Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis has to acquaint the president or chairman of the public meeting announced to be held this evening in Trafalgar-square that the police have instructions not to prevent or in any way interfere with the holding of the public meeting in a peaceable and quiet manner; but should bodies of persons proceed together about the streets in such a manner as by their number, noise, demeanour, or language is calculated to cause a breach of the peace or excite terror and alarm in the minds of her Majesty's subjects, it will become the duty of the police to prevent and, if necessary, put a stop to such proceedings, and apprehend persons encouraging those engaged in them, and others who continue to act with them.

"RICHARD MAYNE."

"Edmond Beales, Esq."

The reading of the letter was met with frequent laughter and hisses.

Mr. Beales, proceeding, said he had received this about an hour since. Respecting the gravity of the present crisis, it was important not so much as regarded the rejection of the Reform Bill or the defeat of the Liberal Government, but as regarded themselves. They were put upon their trial. Insulting reflections had been cast upon them; they had been represented as not only indifferent to Reform, but as unit for it—as ignorant—(groans)—by their violence—(renewed groans)—by their venality—(hisses and groans)—to exercise it. (Hisses, and cries of "Shame on Lowe!") Let them give such an answer to these calumnies of their enemies as would prove their untruth and cover their accusers with shame (Cheers). Let them show themselves not only capable of exercising the suffrage, but capable of something more—capable at this crisis of resolutely determining and unflinchingly insisting upon their rights—(cheers)—and that without in the least encroaching on the rights of others, without even returning insult for insult. Let them give by their magnanimity and forbearance a proud answer to the insults of their enemies. Let that be their answer, and a proof of their gratitude to such real patriots as William Ewart Gladstone—(tremendous cheering and waving of hats)—and John Bright (Repeated cheering). It was these able and true-hearted men who had fought their battle (Cheers). Let them not by any exhibition of popular passion against the Loves and Elchos—(hisses and groans)—and the rest of the inhabitants of the Cave—(great laughter)—give an opportunity of complaint. Pass them by with indifference. They had been reviled as a mob. Let them show that the epithet applied rather to their kid glove opponents in the House of Commons. Let them show by their conduct the untruthfulness of the calumnies with which they had been assailed, but let them also firmly assert their rights (Cheers). Let them show that no Ministry could hope to exist that did not give a much larger extension of the franchise than that proposed by the late Reform Bill—(loud cheers)—and which was rejected by the House of Commons. Why, the House itself was a usurpation—he said it advisedly—it was a usurpation—a House elected—

At this point in the chairman's address an interruption took place in consequence of the arrival of a procession of working men from Hoxton, and another from Clerkenwell. This further augmentation of the immense assemblage rendered it necessary that two other meetings should be held, and these were accordingly formed in the opposite corners of the square, Colonel Dickson presiding over one and Mr. Neverson over the other. Other meetings on different portions of the square were also formed, and at one period six several assemblages were being addressed by a similar number of different sets of speakers. Resolutions approving of reform in Parliament, and of the principles enunciated by Mr. Gladstone and Earl Russell, were passed. Loud cheers were subsequently given for Mr. Gladstone, Mr. John Bright, and manhood suffrage. After which other cheers were given for the chairman, and the proceedings were brought to a close. The several speakers had earnestly besought those composing the meeting quietly to disperse at its termination, and with this request the large majority complied; but about one or two thousand men and boys who had been on the outskirts of the crowd proceeded to the residence of Mr. Gladstone. Arrived at the Duke of York's Column, they gave some cheers, and then moved on to the Reform Club, where they gave more cheers. Some gentlemen, who were looking out of the windows at the Carlton, were as heartily hissed. After standing fire for a few minutes the spectators withdrew from the window, and, some groans having been given for the Derby Ministry, a move was made to St. James's-place, St. James's-street, where Lord Elcho resides; there, however, the crowd met with a check, as no one was allowed to pass up St. James's-place, a body of police being stationed at each end. Patrols of police in parties of three and four were also kept parading up and down St. James's street, near the entrance to St. James's-place. The mob did not give them any trouble, but contented itself with hissing and groaning. After venting their feelings towards the noble Lord in this manner for some few minutes, there was a cry of "Bright, Bright!" One or two hundred accordingly set off towards the house of the hon. member for Birmingham, which is in Hanover-street; but when they reached Piccadilly most of them turned down that thoroughfare, and in a short time the streets in the neighbourhood were as quiet as on ordinary occasions. There was not the slightest attempt at anything like a disturbance, beyond the partial stoppage of the streets for a short time, and some cheering and hissing. It was evident that, though the police were nowhere to be seen in force, they had made arrangements by which they could have at once suppressed any unlawful acts.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The eight representatives of England in the international contest for the Elcho challenge-shield have been determined by competition. The following are the names of those gentlemen, arranged in order of merit:—Mr. Baker, of Bristol; Mr. Fletcher, Liverpool; Mr. Miller, Bristol; Mr. Evans, Derby; the Earl of Ducie; Captain Bland, 76th Regiment; Mr. W. Wells, London; and Mr. Nosworthy, London. The ninth competitor upon the list, whose services would be called into requisition in the event of any of the rest from any circumstances being absent, is Corporal Pell, of the Inns of Court volunteers.

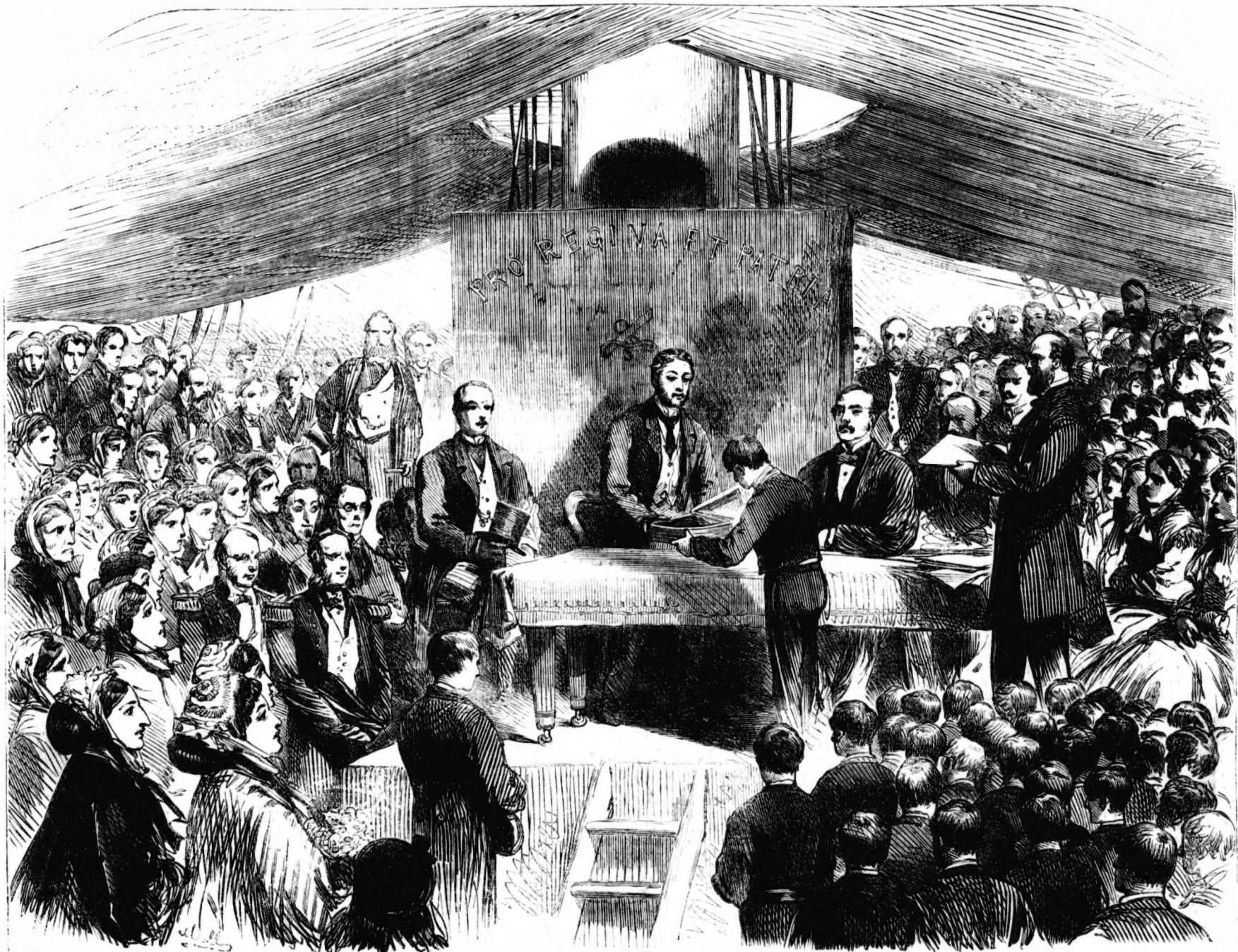
PROGRESS OF ODESSA.—The trade of Odessa, says the British Consul, in his report on 1865, increased largely during that year. The town has a very mixed population of about 140,000. All trade and dealings in money are gradually getting entirely into the hands of the Jews; the old Greek, Italian, and German commercial houses retiring before them. The French are chiefly tailors and milliners; the Germans, agriculturists; the English, engineers and stonecutters. Russian noblemen still continue to make cloth, sugar, and brandy; but since they have been unable to command slave labour many of their factories have been closed for want of hands, and those who remain at work produce small, uncertain profits and bad articles. Since the emancipation of the serfs there has been a strong tendency among the peasantry to collect in towns, where work is more plentiful and better paid. The Consul notes a constant increase of civilisation and general prosperity. Education advances rapidly. He states that great liberty is allowed, both in public speaking and writing, and all symptoms of discontent and revolutionary ideas have disappeared. Even the Poles in this district, who are very numerous, appear reconciled to the Government. The value of lands, houses, and produce of all kinds is rising rapidly, and wages and living are at least three times as high as in England. New buildings and public works are going forward in every direction. Local affairs, administered entirely by the new municipality, and freely discussed in public, excite eager interest. The town expenditure is carefully watched, and old abuses of all kinds are fast dying away.



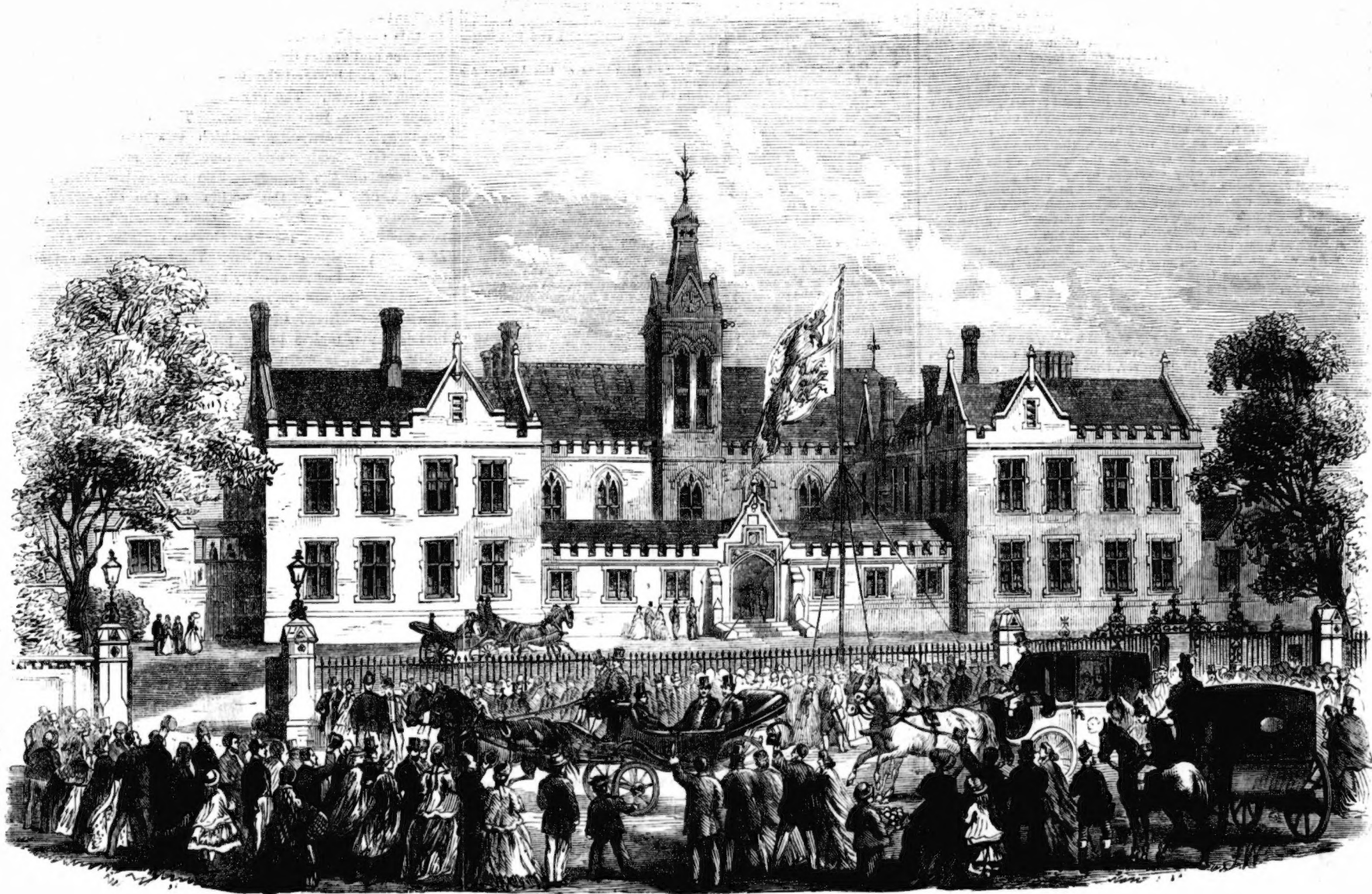
REFORM DEMONSTRATION IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.



KNOLE PARK, NEAR SEVENOAKS, THE SEAT OF EARL DELAWARR.



THE PRINCE OF WALES DISTRIBUTING THE PRIZES ON BOARD THE WORCESTER TRAINING-SHIP.



OPENING OF THE FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM, BEDDINGTON, BY THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

KNOLE PARK.

KNOLE, or Knowle, Place and Park, for some centuries the seat of the Earls and Dukes of Dorset, is situated at Sevenoaks, in Kent. The mansion stands about 2½ miles from London, and is approached, through the park, by a handsome gate leading from the town, through an avenue, to the park gates.

Knole is unquestionably one of the most splendid ancient mansions in the kingdom. The beholder is impressed at the first view with ideas which carry him back to times long past; while the castellated styles of the mansion, with its square towers, embattled gateways, and peculiar site, conspire to fix the mind on the days of feudal grandeur, chivalry, and romance. The edifice exhibits specimens of the styles of different ages. The most ancient portion is thought to be coeval with the Mareschals and Bigods, who formerly possessed this domain; the most modern is the erection of Thomas first Earl of Dorset in the beginning of the reign of James I. Many subsequent improvements have, however, been made; and the building is now of a quadrangular form.

Of the ancient history of this venerable pile, the following particulars are, we believe, authentic:—

It was possessed in the time of King John by Baldwin de Bethun, or Betune. From him, through the Mareschals, Earls of Pembroke, and the Bigods, Earls of Norfolk, it descended to Otho de Grandison, who held it in the reign of Edward I. Sir Thomas Grandison, in the time of Richard II., conveyed it to Geoffrey de Say, whose daughter transferred it to Sir William Fiennes, and Sir William's son to Archbishop Bourchier, by whom considerable additions were made to the edifice, and who bequeathed it by will to the see of Canterbury. Archbishop Morton (who died here in 1460) likewise added to the buildings; but Crammer, observing that the grandeur of the structure excited the invidious remarks of the laity, exchanged it for lands with the Crown.

It continued a Royal domain till the reign of Edward VI., who granted it to his uncle, the Duke of Somerset. John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, obtained possession on Somerset's conviction. Northumberland's execution again transferred it to the Crown, and Cardinal Pole procured it of Queen Mary for his life. On its lapsing a third time, Elizabeth presented it to her favourite, the Earl of Leicester, who resigned it. The Queen then conferred it on Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who (with the exception of its being seized on in the time of the usurpation, and of an alienation by Richard, the third Earl, to Henry Smith, Esq., Alderman of London, which was redeemed by his Lordship's nephew) transmitted uninterrupted possession to his descendants, the Earls and Dukes of Dorset. Knole is now the property of the Earl of Delawarr, a branch of the great house of Sackville, and was visited a few days ago by the Prince and Princess of Wales, to meet whom a distinguished company was assembled.

The entrance into the mansion is through a tower portal, which leads to a small courtyard, with a grass plot on each side; on one plot stands the statue of a gladiator, on the other that of Venus rising from the sea. This court conducts to another, with a columned portico supporting a balcony with balustrades.

Knole takes its name, most probably, from being situated on the ridge of a hill, or *knoll*. The park owes much to nature and much to its noble proprietors. The line of its surface is perpetually varying, so that new points of view are constantly presenting themselves. The soil is happily adapted to the growth of timber. Stately beeches and venerable oaks fill every part of the landscape. The girth of one of these oaks exceeds 28 ft. The plantations are not dotted about in clumps as if they had no relation to the general effect, but in broad and spacious masses cover the summits of the undulating line, or skirt the valleys in easy sweeps. Numerous herds of fine deer browse in every part of the park, and complete the richness and varied beauty of the scenery.

ON BOARD THE WORCESTER.

THE distribution of prizes to the cadets of the Thames Marine Training-ship, on Thursday of last week, was an event of so much importance that, distinguished as it was by the presence of the Prince of Wales, it may be said to have given to the Worcester its true position as the college of the mercantile marine service, where boys who are educated upon that fine frigate matriculate for honours on the sea.

Those who made the journey from Blackwall to Erith by the steam-boat provided for the occasion had the best opportunity of seeing to advantage the preparations made for the Royal visit, not only at Erith itself, but all along the river, and even the flat shores were decorated here and there by a flock of colour where some pole or flagstaff gave an opportunity to hang out a bit of bunting, while the ships and small craft were more or less dressed for the occasion.

We were a gay party on board the Petrel, enlivened by the strains of the band from Mr. Green's shipbuilding yard; and though any undue levity was checked by the gorgeous uniforms of the officers of the Naval Reserve, who mustered in some force and conducted themselves like admirals at the very least, the scene on the river was too pleasant to lose its effect on the spirits, while the gay dresses of the ladies were only exceeded by the still gayer dresses of the ships and yachts which came in sight as we approached the great dark hull of the Worcester lying at her moorings, and with all her flags flying above the ample awning which covered her afterdeck.

The station at North Woolwich, to which the Prince of Wales would have to repair after the ceremony on his way to Snarbrook, where he was to lay the foundation-stone of the new wing of the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, was decorated in a manner which reminded us of the paper ornamentation of a twelfth-cake or the summer screens used in fire-stoves—a style of art which is scarcely effective when applied to the entire side of a house, but which did duty well enough under a bright sky and at a distance which lent as much enchantment to the view as could be expected under the circumstances. It was at Erith, however, that the greatest efforts had been made. Along the whole line of route where his Royal Highness had to pass there were flags and bowers, and flowers and triumphal arches, while the pier itself was the culmination of all this display. Nobody on board the Petrel had time to examine it, however, since all eyes were directed towards the Worcester, the yards of which were manned by the cadets as we approached. It was an imposing—almost an affecting—sight to see these active, healthy-looking lads, in their neat, bright uniforms, standing beneath the colours; and it augurs well for the future of our mercantile marine that many of its officers will be drawn from this source and will take the training and education of gentlemen, as well as of sailors, to the onerous duties which they will be called upon to fulfil.

It was still more affecting, when we had followed the ladies to the deck and taken our seats in one or other of the alphabetical divisions marked out for the company, to see the boys drawn up in the space in front of the raised platform which had been prepared for the Prince of Wales, Lord Alfred Paget (who took the chair) the Duke of Sutherland, General Knolly, &c. The Prince was not long in arriving at Erith, to which he had travelled by special train from Charing-cross, and was speedily on his way to the ship in the Thames Conservancy steamer. As soon as his approach was signalled, the voice of the boatswain, not exactly "hoarsely bawling," but certainly speaking loud enough to be heard, and the shrill piping of his mates, called the lads to man the yards again; and away they went, like squirrels, and stood until his Royal Highness was alongside, when he saluted the ship. After a few minutes, employed in walking round the vessel and inspecting the arrangements below and on deck, with a keenness and appreciation which were obvious from his subsequent remarks, he took his seat at the table on the platform where the prizes were arranged; and, after a few observations to the boys from their old friend Lord A. Paget, and the reading of the reports of the masters and examiners by Mr. W. M. Bullivant, the honorary secretary, the business of the occasion commenced. The ceremony of the presentation of the prizes to these future sailors did not wait for the salt-water baptism of tears as the boys went up one after another, and were each addressed by the Prince in two or three encouraging words and his own peculiarly winning smile.

The head boy of the school, R. L. D. Gompertz, took rewards amounting in value to a considerable sum, and the prizes were all admirably selected in their relation to the branch of learning for which they were conferred, consisting mostly of nautical and mathematical instruments and medals, one of the latter being given for gunnery practice. When one or two of the younger and smaller boys came up for their prizes, the tender enthusiasm with which the ladies greeted the little fellows was unbounded; and it is scarcely too much to hope that many of them will remember that day in the future career which lies before them—for Mr. Bullivant announced that he had succeeded in getting appointments in first-class vessels for all the boys who left this half year with those certificates which, when granted on board the Worcester, represent one year's actual service at sea in the future naval examinations.

After a few simple but earnest words to the boys the Prince of Wales left the ship amidst such a burst of cheering as only a large number of strong-lunged boys, led on by a fagman in whom they have reason to place entire confidence, can give; and then the rigging was manned until the Conservancy steamer had reached Erith pier; after which that fagman, who was no other than the honorary secretary, presented each boy who was about to leave with a Bible, accompanied with a touching but manly speech in reference to their future conduct.

The ceremony of the day was then concluded, and the entire company adjourned below for refreshments, which, although the arrangements had been almost overthrown by the storm of the previous evening, which took all hands to secure the awnings on deck and make all trim aloft, were certainly of a very liberal character.

Since the cadets of the Worcester broke up for their summer holidays we have had a change in the Ministry, and it may be suggested that the new Admiralty could not better inaugurate their term of office than by doing something to foster an institution which has at present received little assistance, although it is of real national importance.

ASYLUM FOR FEMALE ORPHANS.

THE new building at Beddington, near Croydon, for this well-known asylum, which has been located about a century at Lambeth, was formally opened, on Wednesday, the 27th ult., by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, in the presence of a numerous party of the friends and supporters of the charity. For some time it has been a matter of discussion among the authorities of the asylum whether it should be removed from Lambeth to the country or not; but, having resolved upon a change of localities, there can be no doubt that they could not have selected a more healthy or beautiful spot than Beddington. The institution was established in 1758, chiefly through the exertions of Sir John Fielding, and it numbered among its early patrons many distinguished persons, including Queen Charlotte. In 1806 the late Duke of Cambridge became president, and upon his death his Royal Highness the present Duke accepted the same office, which he continues to hold. Since the foundation of the society more than 2874 children have been admitted, and they have been brought up in the principles of the Established Church and instructed in the various duties of domestic servants. The corporation, after mature deliberation, decided to purchase the old hall at Beddington, which formerly belonged to the Carew family, together with twenty-two acres of ground, for which they have given the sum of £14,500. The ancient mansion has been restored and partly rebuilt from the designs of Mr. Downes, at a cost, including fittings, of £10,000, and the arrangements for the accommodation of the children are of the most complete character. A large portion of the magnificently wooded park, which is connected with many historical events of interest, has been preserved for the enjoyment of the inmates of the asylum. His Royal Highness was received by the vice-presidents and committee and conducted to the hall, which has been slightly modernised, but without any interference with its architectural merits, of which the fine oaken roof forms a prominent feature. Here were assembled a large company of ladies and gentlemen, in addition to the neatly-dressed and healthy-looking girls of the school, who occupied a conspicuous position on each side of the platform. On the platform were his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester, as well as all the principal members of the committee. On his Grace entering the hall, the children and the company joined in the National Anthem; and immediately afterwards Mr. W. H. Stone, M.P., the chairman of the committee for the day, read an address to his Royal Highness, which contained the following passages:—

We, the vice-presidents, committee, and guardians of the Asylum for Female Orphans, take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to your Royal Highness for your long-continued kindness to our institution, and especially for honouring us with your presence to-day, when we have the pleasure of welcoming your Royal Highness on your first visit to our new asylum. The Asylum for Female Orphans has now existed for more than a century, and since its first institution, in 1758, has provided a home and a useful and Christian education for no less than 2874 orphan girls. At the time of its first foundation the situation of the asylum at Lambeth was no doubt well suited for its purpose, but the enormous extension of London during late years has produced such changes in the neighbourhood as to render it in several respects inconvenient for an institution of this kind. The building at Lambeth was, according to the sanitary principles now established, quite insufficient for the accommodation of the number of children contained in it. It had also fallen very much out of repair, and would have required the expenditure of a large sum to put it in a permanently habitable condition. On the other hand, the increased value of land in the neighbourhood of London has rendered it possible to procure a site in the country, and provide a new and far larger building, at a cost not exceeding the sum to be realised by the sale of the old site. Under these circumstances, the committee and guardians decided upon the removal of the children to a new situation in the country; and with that view they purchased the estate and mansion in which we have now the honour to receive your Royal Highness. The old mansion at Beddington has been successfully converted into an asylum, capable of containing 200 children, with abundant space and ventilation, and with all the advantages afforded by the best modern construction. The grounds, rendered famous in the history of the county by more than one Royal visit, will afford a healthy and delightful place of recreation for the young and often delicate children in our school. The value of the old site at Lambeth, together with the surplus land which may be disposed of at Beddington, will, it is hoped, cover the whole expense which has been incurred in the removal; and the committee have therefore the satisfaction of thinking that they will have greatly improved the health and comfort of the children without any loss to the funds of the charity. The committee, however, deeply impressed with the usefulness of this institution, ventured in arranging their new building to provide for an extension of that usefulness; and, accordingly, the new asylum will accommodate 200 children, being forty more than the number hitherto received. This increase cannot be made without a large addition to the subscriptions; and we therefore earnestly press the claims of this valuable charity upon the public generally, and, more especially, upon the inhabitants of the neighbourhood into which it is now about to be introduced.

His Royal Highness, in reply, said he had no doubt that the removal from Lambeth to so beautiful and charming a spot as Beddington would be beneficial alike to the children and to the pecuniary interests of the asylum, and expressed an earnest hope that the institution would now make a fresh start in its career of usefulness.

A special form of prayer, composed for the occasion by the Bishop of Winchester, was then gone through, at the conclusion of which his Royal Highness declared the building opened and dedicated to the use of the Asylum for Female Orphans. The service, in which the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester took part, terminated with the singing of the 100th Psalm. Subsequently his Royal Highness inspected the building, which has just been completed, and to which in a few days the whole of the inmates of the old asylum at Lambeth will remove.

INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES.—M. Hussen, Director-General of the Hospitals of Paris, is at present on an official visit to London. He is employed in studying, as on the occasion of former visits, the medical institutions of the metropolis. He presented himself on Tuesday at the Whitechapel Union, provided with an official letter of introduction from the Poor-Law Board, and was refused admission.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Earl RUSSELL moved the adjournment of the House to Thursday next, to give time for the Earl of Derby to make his Ministerial arrangements. Subsequently, after a debate, the bill of the Gaslight and Coke Company, for making huge works near to Victoria Park, was thrown out by 27 votes to 26.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The names of the Helstone Election Committee were reported, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, JULY 2.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the adjournment to Thursday being moved, Mr. WATKIN called attention to the maintenance of the Bank rate of discount at 10 per cent. He thought the House ought to meet earlier than Thursday, in order that the Chancellor of the Exchequer might give some explanation on the matter.

Mr. CHILDERS deprecated raising a discussion on the matter. Mr. D. GRIFFITH wanted to know if steps had been taken to prevent the peace being broken by the meeting in Trafalgar-square that evening. Sir G. GREY replied that they had; and the House adjourned to Thursday.

THURSDAY, JULY 5.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

After the transaction of some private business, Earl RUSSELL said that he had received a communication from the Earl of Derby requesting a further postponement of public business until Monday next. He therefore moved that the House on its rising should adjourn until that day.—Agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ADJOURNMENT.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had now to perform his last official act in moving the adjournment of the House till next day at five o'clock. In doing so, he had a single duty to discharge, which, he trusted, would not be considered invidious by gentlemen opposite—namely, with reference to the protracted struggle in which they had been engaged—to tender in his own name and in that of his colleagues an expression of their gratitude to those who with so much zeal and so much perseverance supported them in the course of that struggle. The orders were then read and postponed, and the House adjourned.

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SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1866.

THEATRICAL LIBERTY.

THE history of restrictions and monopolies is invariably a history of inconsistencies, contradictions, and absurdities on the one hand, and of evasions and violations of the law on the other. A law which does not commend itself to the moral approval and coincide with the public convenience of society, will never be respected or obeyed. On the contrary, it will be either openly violated or secretly evaded; and must ultimately become a dead letter, if legislative wisdom does not dictate its repeal. Such a law, moreover, always tends to defeat the very object it professes to subserve. The history of this country furnishes numerous examples of this. High customs and excise duties induced smuggling and illicit distillation, and lowered the receipts of the revenue instead of increasing them. The game laws make poachers, who invariably develop into criminals. The corn laws, instead of encouraging agriculture—which was the pretence under which they were passed and were maintained—proved the bane of the farmer. The navigation laws crippled, instead of aiding, the action of the shipowner. We understand the folly of such restrictions in regard to some things now; but are slow to perceive the application of sound principles to others. The reduction of custom and excise duties has practically abolished smuggling by making it unprofitable, and the revenue has benefited in consequence. Since the abolition of protective duties, the farmer pays higher rents, makes better profits, and, in common with all other classes, is more prosperous than he ever was before. The repeal of the navigation laws has led to an enormous increase in British shipping, and to better returns for its employment than were obtainable under the old system of monopoly. So much for one side of the picture. For the other, we still maintain the game laws, and poachers and poaching-made criminals are rife in the land.

It is, however, with another species of restriction and monopoly with which we have now more particularly to deal, and to which our opening remarks are especially applicable. For many years the business of providing amusement for the people has been the object of petty legislation, of vexatious restrictions, and of embarrassing interferences. A few favoured establishments, called patent theatres, had a monopoly of the privilege of producing "stage-plays." This led to evasions of the law, and to the war of the "patent" and the "minor" theatres. The exclusive privileges of the patent houses were abolished in 1843, by the Act 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 68, which authorised the Lord Chamberlain to license houses for stage-plays within his jurisdiction, and magistrates to do the same beyond that jurisdiction. This destroyed the distinction between the patent and the minor theatres, all being equally free as to the production of dramatic performances.

Some restrictions, however, werestill maintained. Music-halls were not deemed theatres, and hence the old contest was revived under a new name and by new combatants. The proprietors of what were once called minor theatres, "scorning the base degrees" by which they had emancipated themselves,

turned round upon the owners of music-halls and endeavoured to impose upon them the same restrictions by which they had themselves suffered in former times. This, of course, was not very consistent conduct; but it was a natural result of the system of exclusion and of the spirit engendered by it. The new claimants of exclusive advantages were not more logical nor more wise in their proceedings and arguments than were the patentee monopolists in their day. Both affected to be actuated by a zeal for the preservation of public morals and taste, for maintaining the dignity of the stage, and conserving the purity of the drama. But both were really prompted by a mistaken desire to serve what they deemed their own interests; and both forgot that the purity of the drama, the dignity of the stage, the elevation of public taste, and the preservation of public morals, would all be best secured by leaving the stage and everything connected with it at perfect liberty. Theatrical managers wished to keep the trade of providing amusement for the public in their own hands, so that their own houses might always be well filled, and their own coffers well replenished. But they forgot—or they did not understand—as the proprietors of the patent houses had done before, that in suppressing music-halls they were suppressing their best friends. The minor theatres acted as feeders to the patent houses in the past as the music-halls act as feeders to the theatres now; the better character of the performances in the music-hall the more likely are they to raise the standard of taste among their frequenters, and to send them in search of something higher still to the better organised and more pretentious establishments. So, also, as regards actors. The smaller theatres, left free, act as nurseries of actors for the larger houses. The music-halls, left at liberty, will act as nurseries of performers as well as of audiences for the theatres. Thus, as we have said, the advocates of monopoly always defeat their own objects, and at the same time involve themselves in a maze of absurdities, contradictions, and inconsistencies.

A feature was made by the advocates of restriction of the fact that drinking is permitted in music-halls, and that persons of questionable character resort to them. But these are evils which restriction would perpetuate and that freedom would destroy. The same charges were made, and with about the same amount of justice, against the minor theatres. With their emancipation from legal thralldom these objectionable elements in their management disappeared. Freedom produced a higher style of entertainment; that in its turn attracted more respectable audiences; and on the advent of respectable audiences, disreputable practices and disreputable persons vanished. The same thing will happen in the case of music-halls. It is the interest of the owners of these establishments to secure respectable audiences, and to attain that object they will so manage their houses as to induce respectable people to frequent them. Thus, in every way, free trade in public amusement, as in everything else, is the most natural, and therefore the wisest, policy.

We have now a prospect of seeing this rule of policy reduced to practice. The Committee of the House of Commons, presided over by Mr. Goschen, which has been taking evidence on this subject, has reported in favour of a large measure of dramatic freedom. They recommend that all places of public amusement shall be subjected to the same rules, licensed on the same principles, and permitted to enjoy the same privileges. The distinctions between theatres and music-halls is to be abolished; there is to be no more hair-splitting as to what are "stage-plays" and what are not; the only conditions to be imposed in future are, that the place shall be suited to the purpose for which it is sought to employ it, that it shall be constructed with a due regard to safety and comfort, and that order and decorum shall be observed in its management. Everything else may be safely left to the governance of public opinion. We could perhaps wish to see the principle of freedom carried a little farther, and the licensing system, both as regards houses and plays, either abolished altogether or still further relaxed. But the recommendations of the Committee are in the right direction, and are sound so far as they go. We suppose they will now be practically acted upon, and that by another year at least we may hope to see them embodied in legislation. The stage, comparatively free, will then truly become the means of "holding the mirror up to to nature," and that, too, before audiences of all ranks and all grades of society—a consummation very devoutly to be wished.

ACCIDENT TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.—On Monday afternoon, as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was riding in Rotten-row, Hyde Park, he met with an accident which at the time caused considerable alarm. As the Prince was riding at the Kensington end of the row, a horse over whom his rider seemed to have lost all control dashed at a furious pace along the ride. The animal came direct upon his Royal Highness, who, seeing that a collision was inevitable, disengaged his feet from the stirrups and fell clear of the horse. The concussion came with such force that the Prince's horse was dashed down, rolling over and over. The other animal did not fall, but continued its onward career. His Royal Highness was not much hurt, but he must have received an awkward twist, for the heel of one of his boots with the spur thereon was subsequently picked up by a groom on the spot where the accident took place. So little was the Prince discommoded by the accident that in the evening he was present at the Royal banquet at the Trinity House.

THE COMMANDER OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL FORCES.—Prince Alexander of Hesse, who has been appointed to command the German Federal forces, is an officer whose military reputation has already attracted attention. He first took service in Russia, following the fate of his sister, who is married to the present Czar, and soon won his spurs in the Caucasus. A morganatic marriage entailed his retirement from the Russian army, and he then tendered his sword to Francis Joseph. The Austrian Emperor has had no cause to regret the day when he accepted his services and commanded his friendship. At Montebello he earned the Theresien-Kreutz, the highest and most valuable military decoration in Europe; and at Solferino he recovered the retreat of the Austrian centre when few but himself had retained their self-possession. He has now retired from the Austrian service, expressly, it is stated, in order to take command of the left wing of the federal armies. It must be acknowledged that no fitter man could have been found. Related or connected with the leading members of most of the royal families of Europe, a native of these parts, with ample military experience, forty-three years of age, cool and confident, he unites in himself almost all the qualities required for the peculiar command to which he is now called.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

PRINCE TECK will not again serve in the Austrian army, but will be gazetted to the rank of a general officer in the British Army.

THE JAMAICA COMMITTEE has resolved to urge the trial of ex-Governor Eyre.

THE PROFITS of Lord Derby's version of the "Iliad" amount to £1350, and have been invested as a prize for the pupils of the Wellington College.

DR. HAMPDEN, Bishop of Hereford, is so seriously ill that he is unable to hold the series of confirmations which he announced for the present month. The duty will consequently be undertaken by the Bishop of Worcester, who will be assisted by the Bishop of Lichfield.

THE HELSTON ELECTION COMMITTEE met on Tuesday morning, and, after hearing evidence, came to the conclusion that Mr. Robert Campbell had not been duly elected.

COLONEL PEARD, Garibaldi's Englishman, it is said, intends to go out as soon as he possibly can, and have some more rifle practice with his old comrades.

THE EMIR OF BOKHARA has made proposals to Russia for a peace conference, and has tried to conciliate the Czar by sending back the Russian Plenipotentiary and promising to release the Russian merchants whom he holds as prisoners.

COMMANDER MAURY, of the United States, is about to be attached to the French navy as chief of the meteorological department.

THE DUKE OF BEDFORD has made a donation of £1000 towards the enlargement of the Devon County School, West Buckland.

ALDERMAN LANE JOYNT was on Monday elected Lord Mayor of Dublin for the year 1867.

THE RIVER EARN, in Scotland, has been unusually low lately in consequence of the great drought, and many persons have been searching its bed for pearls. Some of the pearls found are valued at from £1 to £2 each.

COURT SUITS were dispensed with for members of the House of Commons at the Speaker's dinner, on Wednesday night week, for the first time. Mr. Bright, in a plain black suit, made his first appearance at the Speaker's dinner-table, as did Mr. J. S. Mill, Mr. J. B. Smith, and others.

ALFRED KROESNER appeared before a New York magistrate on the 4th of June, and demanded a divorce, on the ground that the times had become so hard since his marriage that he could not support a wife.

A ROMAN CHARIOT RACE took place recently in Philadelphia between a New York and Philadelphia lady, both of whom were draped in a style to correspond with the occasion. The New Yorker was the fastest.

MR. PETER GRAHAM, the young Scottish artist, whose picture of "A Spate in the Highlands" has attracted very favourable notice in the present exhibition of the Royal Academy, has been commissioned by her Majesty to execute three pictures of Highland scenery near Balmoral Castle.

THE SILVER PLATE belonging to the Royal family of Saxony, which has been sent to Prague, weighs thirty tons, and the crown jewels ten tons. Most of the contents of the "Grüne Gewölbe" have been sent to Munich.

FIVE HAPPY COUPLES are claimants for the Dunmow sitch, and applications are still pouring in. Three of the loving couples reside in London.

THE MOBILISATION OF THE PRUSSIAN ARMY has ruined the theatre at Carlsruhe. The tenor, Stolzenberg, has been draughted into the Rhenish contingent, and another singer, Robertstein, has also been compelled to take military service.

LORD CREMORNE is about to be raised to an earldom by the title of Earl of Dartrey, the designation of the barony by virtue of which he now sits in the House of Lords.

VISCOUNT MONCK, Governor-General of Canada, is about to become a British peer. Apart from his political association with the late Ministry, Lord Monck's admirable administration of the Government of Canada amply justifies this distinction.

THE GREAT EASTERN STEAMER, with the Atlantic cable, left the Medway shortly after noon on Saturday, under her own steam, in charge of Mr. Moore, pilot, and accompanied by H.M. steamer Adder to conduct her past the Nore. She proceeds direct to Berhaven, Ireland. According to present arrangements, she will commence laying the cable on the 10th instant, if all goes well.

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN are likely to have baronetries conferred upon them:—Mr. Dudley Coutts Majoribanks, M.P. for Berwick-on-Tweed; Mr. Pryse Loveden, a relative of the late member for Cardigan of the same name; and Mr. Tempest and Mr. Ingilby, who represent old county families, the former in Yorkshire and the latter in Lincolnshire.

BOAT-RACES FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD came off on Wednesday and Thursday at Newcastle-on-Tyne. The competitors were Henry Kelly (champion of the Thames) and James Hamill (champion of America). The former won both contests.

IN 1000 BIRTHS registered in the Merthyr, Upper District, from October, 1859, to Aug. 14, 1860, there were one hundred of the name of Davies, one hundred of the name of Jones, and forty-five of the name of Williams. In Merthyr, Lower District, from Dec. 27, 1859, to Nov. 24, 1860, there were 108 of the name of Jones, ninety-four of the name of Davies, and fifty-two of the name of Williams. In Monmouthshire the name of Williams is, perhaps, of the most frequent occurrence.

STRAND UNION WORKHOUSE.—The report of the inspector to the Poor-Law Board on the results of his inquiry into the treatment of the poor in the Strand Workhouse, on the allegations of Matilda Beeton has been published. Mr. Cane finds that the workhouse has, in many of its wards, been for a long time seriously overcrowded, and that there has never been a proper staff of efficient nurses to attend upon the sick and infirm poor, and that the inmates are exposed to hardships and sufferings from these causes. Want of space and of proper accommodation for the sick, and want of good nursing and of efficient attendance are now the urgent requisites of this establishment. The inspector remarks:—"There may be reasons why the guardians should feel embarrassed and hesitate to carry out their resolution to build a new workhouse, but nothing to prevent them from at once appointing a sufficient staff of efficient nurses and attendants upon the sick." The practical result of the whole is that the guardians are advertising for three additional paid nurses.

ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.—The "4th of July" was signalled in Liverpool, on Wednesday, by a fine display of flags from truck to stem and tailrail on board the American ships in port. The fleet of the Cunard, Inman, Montreal and Quebec, and National Steam Navigation Companies also joined in similar demonstrations. The office of Mr. Dudley, the United States Consul, was gay with bunting, both English and American, and the leading American merchants also had their offices decorated. The eighty-fourth anniversary of American independence was celebrated in the evening by a banquet at the Washington Hotel, which was attended by the principal Americans at present in Liverpool.

A TUNNEL UNDER THE CHANNEL.—Mr. Hawkshaw, the well-known engineer, is engaged in the preliminary operations necessary to determining the practicability of a submarine road to the Continent. Borings are now being made at a considerable expense in the neighbourhood of Dover, and, by permission of the French Government, between Calais and Boulogne; and in the course of this summer explorations will be made in mid-channel. Such trials are essential, in order to obtain positive knowledge concerning the nature, extent, and thickness of the strata. It is proposed to carry on the excavation for the tunnel from both ends, as well as from shafts in the channel. At the top of the shafts powerful steam-engines will be erected for pumping, for drawing up the excavated material and for supplying power to the machinery by which excavation will be effected. The tunnel will communicate on the French side with the Northern of France Railway, and on the English side with the South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railways, "so that there will be an unbroken line of railway communication between London and Paris."

SHOCKING SCENE.—A Madrid letter gives the subjoined narrative of the execution in that city of sergeants engaged in the late insurrection:—"At noon, two days back, twenty-one young fellows of the army engaged in the late insurrection, almost all of handsome appearance, were taken out of the prisons, and, after being tied together two by two, were placed in carriages with the windows wide open, and escorted by a numerous body of troops to the place of execution, a spot selected in the vacant ground between the Salamanca Palace and the Champs Elysees. One of my friends is having five horses built not a hundred paces from the spot; the masonry and scaffolding are in course of erection, and afforded excellent positions for viewing the scene. There was a preliminary ceremony of military degradation; a promenade under the flag; then a discourse, which I could not hear, but which lasted two hours, during which time these unfortunate men must have already suffered a thousand deaths. An enormous crowd which had followed the procession was kept at a distance by the troops. At last the twenty-one victims were ranged in file, at about a yard's distance from a low clay wall, with their backs to the soldiers, and then the discharge took place. Nearly all of them fell. At that moment the Hermanos de la Caridad, or Brothers of Charity, rushed forward to save at least a few, but were repulsed by the troops, and the firing recommenced and continued. The firing went on, and more than 200 shots were fired. What a sight! I saw one man raise himself three times and fall again on his knees, with his arms extended in a direction from which a piercing voice was heard to shriek in the midst of the massacre, 'Federico! Federico!' The soldiers then approached the corpse, turned some of them over with their feet, and, still perceiving some signs of life here and there, discharged a last shot point blank. All was then over. The bodies were thrown upon tumbrils, and the regiments filed off, some to an air of the 'Norma,' some to one of the 'Semiramide.' Thirty more are to be shot in a day or two—soldiers also; the rest will come after. Let us hope the Queen will show some compassion."

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

The following list of the members of the new Administration is substantially correct; but the final arrangements will hardly be completed for a few days longer:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| First Lord of the Treasury | Earl of Derby, K.G. |
| Chancellor of the Exchequer | Right Hon. B. Disraeli. |
| Lord Chancellor | Lord Chelmsford. |
| Home Secretary | Right Hon. S. H. Walpole. |
| Foreign Secretary | Lord Stanley. |
| Colonial Secretary | Earl of Carnarvon. |
| Secretary for War | Right Hon. General Peel. |
| Secretary for India | Viscount Cranbourne. |
| Postmaster-General | Duke of Montrose. |
| Lord Privy Seal | Earl of Malmesbury, G.C.B. |
| Lord President | Duke of Buckingham. |
| Chancellor of the Duchy | Mr. Henley (probable). |
| First Lord of the Admiralty | Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, G.C.B. |
| President of the Board of Trade | Sir Stafford Northcote, C.B. |
| President of the Poor-Law Board | Mr. Gathorne Hardy. |
| Attorney-General | Sir H. Cairns. |
| Solicitor-General | Mr. Bovill. |
| First Commissioner of Works | Lord John Manners. |
| Lord Lieutenant of Ireland | Marquis of Abercorn. |
| Secretary for Ireland | Lord Naas. |
| Master of the Horse | Duke of Beaufort. |
| Lord Chamberlain | Earl of Bradford. |
| Lord Steward | Marquis of Bath. |
| Lords of the Treasury | Sir H. Bateson, Hon. G. Noel. |
| Comptroller of the Household | Right Hon. Cecil Forester. |
| Treasurer of the Household | Lord Henry Gordon Lennox (doubtful). |
| Under Secretary for War | Earl of Longford. |
| Lord Advocate | Mr. Patten. |
| Attorney-General for Ireland | Mr. John George (doubtful). |
| Solicitor-General for Ireland | Mr. Miller. |
| Patronage Secretary of the Treasury | Hon. Colonel Taylor. |

The minor offices have not yet been filled, but we believe that Sir James Fergusson, the Right Hon. Henry Corry, Mr. Baillie Cochran, Mr. Du Cane, and Mr. Butler Johnstone are likely to receive appointments. We believe that a considerable number of peers will be created within a short period.—*Morning Post*.

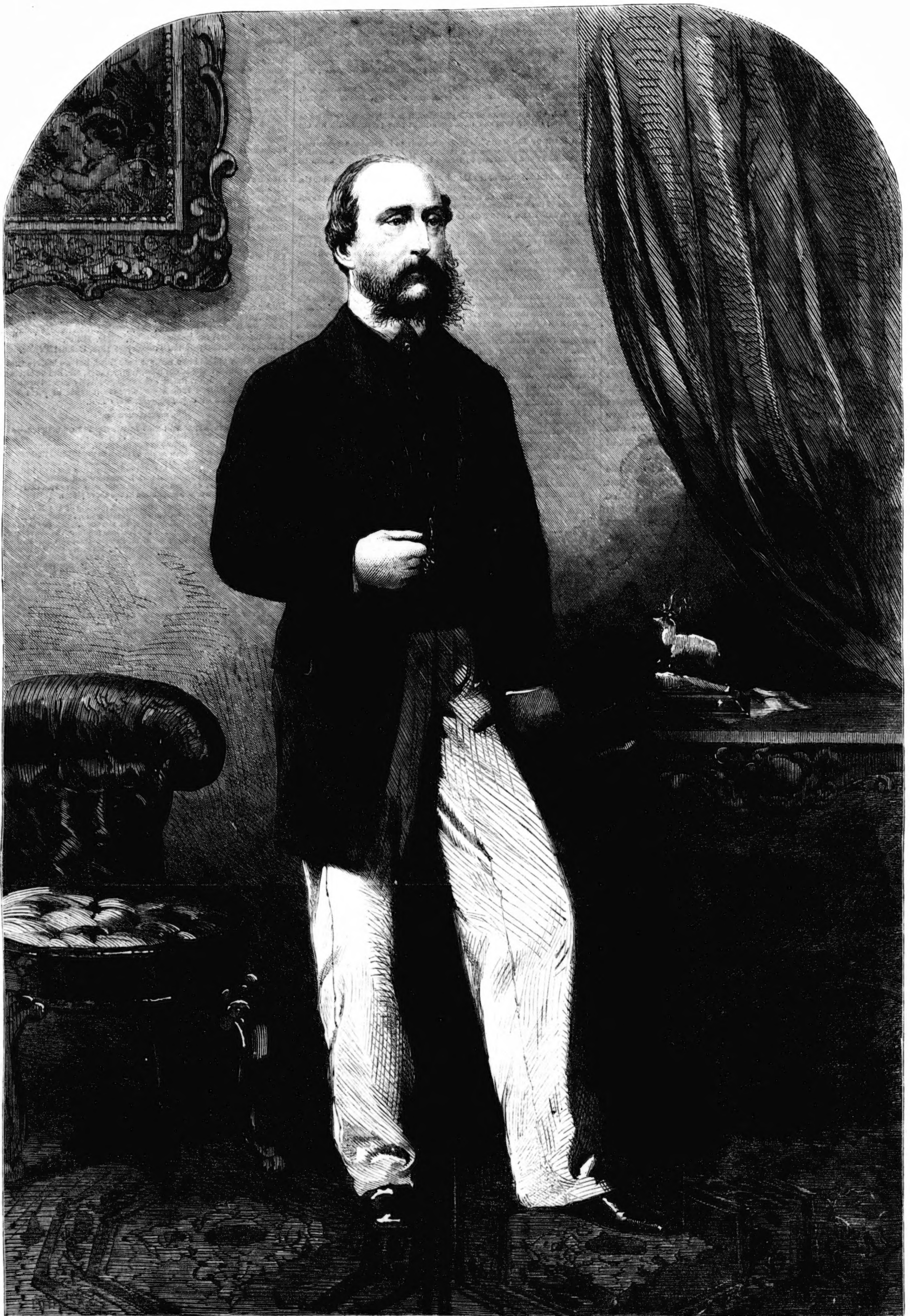
BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—At the forthcoming meeting of the association in Nottingham the opening address will be delivered in the New Theatre by Mr. W. R. Grove, president-elect. Excursions of scientific interest will be taken to the Midland Railway works at Derby, Eastwood Riddings, Cinderhill, Annesley (the birthplace of Lord Byron's "Mary"), Newstead Abbey, the Derwent and the Wye Valleys, and Charnwood Forest. The Dukes of Devonshire and Rutland, Mr. W. F. Webb, Mr. Ambrose de Lisle, and other gentlemen have volunteered to entertain the members of the association at the above places.

NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of the National Life-boat Institution was held, on Thursday, at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, the silver medal of the institution and £2 were voted to Patrick Mackell, chief boatsman of coastguard at Kinsale, in acknowledgment of his brave services in assisting to save five of the crew of the brigantine Anne, of Kinsale, which was wrecked during stormy weather on the 28th ult. It appeared that Mackell, when engaged in reaching a heaving line for the jibboom of the wreck, had to climb over very dangerous rocks, from which he was in the greatest danger of being swept away by the very heavy sea breaking over them. He was, however, with some country people, ultimately successful in hauling ashore the master and four of the crew. The thanks of the institution, inscribed on vellum, were likewise voted to Mr. Richard Reed, R.N., chief officer of coastguard at Kinsale, and £1 to his boat's crew, for having previously put off in a boat, at considerable risk of life, and saved a woman and child from the same wreck. A reward of £7 10s. was also granted to the crew of the City of Manchester life-boat belonging to the institution and stationed at Carmarthen Bay, for assisting to save, during a strong breeze and squally weather, seven of the crew of the ship Mary Roe, of Quebec, which was stranded, on the 17th ult., on the Cefn Sidan Sands. A reward of £8 15s. was likewise granted to the crew of the Crossley life-boat of the institution, stationed at Redcar, for going off, in reply to signals for assistance, and saving two men from the yacht Dagmar, of Middlesborough, which had got among the rocks off Redcar on the 17th ult. Other crews also received rewards. During the past month the institution had sent new life-boats to Skerries and Ballywalter, on the Irish coast. A contribution of £320 had been received by the institution as a first instalment in aid of the cost of the London Sunday School life-boat. A legacy of £100 had been left to the institution by the late Richard Dalton, Esq., of Wigton, Cumberland. Reports were read from Captain Ward, R.N., the inspector, and Captain D. Robertson, R.N., L., assistant inspector of life-boats, on their recent visits to life-boat stations of the institution on various parts of the British Isles. During the past two months the institution had made payments amounting to £4100 on various life-boat establishments. The proceedings then terminated.

THE STORM OF SATURDAY LAST.—GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The great storm which passed over the metropolis and the suburban districts on Saturday last was attended with a serious loss of property, and what was still more unfortunate, fatal results to several persons. During the time the storm was raging in the neighbourhood of Clapham, Battersea, Tulse-hill, Peckham, and Camberwell, at the last-named place a number of boys were on the point of undressing, in order to bathe in the Grand Surrey Canal—where, owing to the repeated complaints made by the inhabitants and the number of lives that have been lost, Mr. Superintendent Payne, of the P division, had placed on special duty a constable named Smart, to prevent the boys from bathing. He was in the act of driving them away, when he suddenly fell on the pathway. Several persons immediately rushed to the unfortunate man, and found him in a state of insensibility. Medical aid was soon procured, and, upon examining the poor fellow, life was pronounced to be extinct. The flower gardens and nurseries in the neighbourhood of Dulwich suffered severely by the violence of the storm; whole strawberry-beds were laid under water, and the fruit reduced to perfect jelly. The beautiful beds of nasturtiums in Camberwell Park, Addington-square, and Kensington Park were forced down into the ground. The guards of the South-Western Railway describe an extraordinary appearance of the storm in the vicinities of Banbury, Kingston-on-Thames, and Wimbledon. Great showers of hail fell, whilst the lightning was flashing and the thunder was roaring with fearful violence, which covered the streets and made them look as if a snowstorm had taken place. The flower gardens and conservatories in the district have been considerably damaged, shrubs and glass being destroyed in abundance, and several persons were severely shaken by the force of the thunder. The fruit-trees were also much damaged by the strength of the lightning, the bark on many trees being stripped off. In the Mile-end-road a man, named Voisey, whilst proceeding in his open cart, was struck by lightning and sent prostrate upon the bottom of his vehicle. He was for a few minutes rendered insensible, but happily recovered. Owing to the heavy fall of rain a great deal of damage was done to the small craft on the river, and during the night and Sunday morning the rain fell in such torrents that many wharves were filled with water. Such a violent storm has not been experienced in or near the metropolis for some years past. One of those awful visitations which invest thunderstorms with real terrors occurred at Wormwood-scrubs. A party of gentlemen belonging to the "Gun Club" had assembled for a pigeon-match, when a vivid flash of lightning struck the men employed in nailing the traps, killing a youth named Thomas Offer on the spot, and seriously injuring his father, two of his brothers, and two other men who were assisting. Several of the gentlemen also experienced a slight shock; and the same flash killed a black setter dog. The match, of course, was postponed.

PRINCESS HELENA AND PRINCE CHRISTIAN

The marriage of her Majesty's third daughter, Princess Helena, to Prince Christian of Augustenburg, was celebrated in the Chapel Royal at Windsor Castle on Thursday. Of this event we shall publish Engravings in our next week's Number. Meanwhile we present our readers with Portraits and description of the Royal couple. Princess Helena Augusta Victoria was born on the 25th of May, 1846, and is therefore a little over twenty years of age. Her husband, Prince Frederick Christian Charles, of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, is considerably older, having been born on the 22nd of January, 1831. He holds, or held until lately, a captaincy in the 3rd Regiment of Prussian Uhlans of the Guard. He will now, however, probably retire from the Prussian service, if he has not already done so, as it is understood that the Princess and her husband are to reside permanently in England. The Prince has had the title of Royal Highness conferred upon him, and has also been made a Major-General in the British Army.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE CHRISTIAN OF AUGUSTENBURG.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS HELENA.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE demonstration in favour of reform in Trafalgar-square, on Monday night, was in every way a success. The attendance was very large. The bulk of the men present were unquestionably workers, and the conduct of the vast crowd was irreproachable. Of course, the number present has been variously estimated. The Radical papers have exaggerated it; the Conservatives have made it much less than it really was. I was in Trafalgar-square long before the proceedings began, and did not leave until they were nearly over. I walked round the square several times before the crowd had assembled, and also whilst the speechifying was going on, and got a bird's-eye view from several points. Moreover, on the following morning I stepped one side of the square, and roughly worked out its capacity; and I have come to the conclusion that there must have been about 15,000 people present. The *Star* reporter estimates the number at 50,000 or 60,000; but this is a mere wild guess. The whole area, including the roads, would probably contain the highest of these numbers; but the roads were only lined with people. They were, during the whole evening, freely traversed by vehicles; and as to the space within the fence, at least one third must be deducted from that for the fountain basins; and, besides this, it must be remembered that, within the inclosure, there were patches of ground which were by no means crowded. Fifteen thousand is, I am persuaded, about the right figure. That the bulk of these were veritable working men I have no doubt. The *Pall Mall Gazette* says that few of the men were in working costume; and that, if they were working men, they must have dressed for the occasion. And herein it shows a curious ignorance of the London mechanics. As a rule, London working men wear no distinctive costume. Some few of them, such as stone-masons, bricklayers, engineers, Bermondsey tanners and fell-mongers, may be known by their dress as they pass you in the streets; but the bulk of our handicraftsmen dress in the fashion of the day, and, except fit and quality of material, the dress of the artisan is much the same as that of the higher classes. I suspect that Groves, of the New-cut, is obliged to consult the fashion of the day almost as closely as Poole, the fashionable tailor at the West-End. The fact is, that though writers in such papers as the *Pall Mall Gazette* talk a good deal about the working men, they know very little of them; they see only a few classes of them, such as work in the streets. If they wish to know the working men of London they must go eastwards, and especially into the wonderful district of Clerkenwell, where there are scores of trades carried on the names of which are unintelligible to all but the initiated. But, to leave this subject, I saw the gathering of the hosts—the Clerkenwellers, the "Holborn branch" of the Reform League, with their banners and bands, and several other distinct bodies, and I have no hesitation in saying that this was a real gathering of London working men. I have said that the conduct of the meeting was irreproachable; and this is certainly true. There were roughs there, no doubt, and a considerable number of frolicsome, mischievous boys; and a body of these, at the close of the proceedings, went in for a lark in Pall-mall, but the mass dispersed as quietly as a church or chapel congregation; and even the roughs did no mischief and created no disturbance, beyond cheering at Gladstone's and howling and hooting at the Carlton, much in the same way as I have often heard members of the Carlton howl and groan at Mr. Whalley, and, when we come to think of it, with no more violence done to law and order; for to howl and roar in the House of Commons is as directly contrary to the rules and orders of the House as howling and hooting in front of the Carlton are opposed to the law of the land; and, if we tolerate the one, we must bear with the other occasionally, and for the same reason—it is irrepressible.

I was struck with the fact that there were very few policemen at this gathering, and that those who were present were obviously there to protect the people, and not to disturb them. Mr. Darby Griffith asked Sir George Grey on the same evening, "whether he and the commissioners of police had taken such steps as they might think best calculated to preserve the public peace on the occasion." To which Sir George, just rising from his seat and lifting his hat, curtly replied, "we have;" and this is the way they had done it. No doubt there were plenty of policemen within hail, but they did not show themselves, and were not wanted. As I looked down upon the vast mass of human beings, I confess I felt proud of my country and its institutions. There is not another capital in Europe in which such an assembly would have been permitted; perhaps not another capital in which it would be safe to allow such a gathering without the attendance of soldiery or police. Another reflection, too, forced itself upon my mind. It is impossible that the working classes who can meet thus to discuss their grievances and dispense so quietly, without causing the least alarm, can be much longer kept out of the pale of the Constitution. They are obviously qualified to take their places within it; and that they will be admitted sooner or later—and not much later, let who will be in power—I have not the slightest doubt. If they had kicked up a row, smashed windows, or mobbed opponents, they would have damaged their cause; but by their orderly, peaceful, and I may say Constitutional, conduct they have strengthened the hands of their friends and disarmed their enemies. "We shall have a row, I fear, before this is over," said a Tory Baronet, standing on the skirts of the crowd. "You mean *hope*, Sir John," was a reply; "but you will be disappointed. These men are too wise to give you such an advantage."

Why did not the Adullamite chiefs join Lord Derby? "They must not gain by their opposition to reform," replies the *Times*, "lest the people should say, 'Ah! this is why you opposed reform—that you might out a Government that would not give you places, and put in a Government that would.' In short, it was a case of 'What will Mrs. Grundy say?' Well, I do not say that this reasoning did not occur to them; or that, occurring, it had no force; but I venture to think that there were much stronger motives behind this. If we could have got into the mind of Mr. Lowe, we should probably have heard a soliloquy something like this:—"No! I cannot join these fellows. They are such an intolerably dull lot, to begin with. Why, I should be always quizzing Pakington and that insufferable bore, Hardy; and if Walpole should come out with one of his sermons I should go to sleep or poke fun at it. And what have I in common with that narrow bigot, Cranbourne? Dizzy and I might get on very well, because we should, aside, laugh at the whole lot; and Derby and I might agree well enough—whilst Pakington was droning and Walpole preaching we should be cracking jokes; but as to all the rest, there is not a man amongst them with whom I could work smoothly. Besides, these fellows are all Tories, and I am no Tory. And then I have this to consider: this Government cannot possibly last many months; and, if I were to join them, I should find, next year at furthest, the door to Downing-street barred against me—it might be for years, or it might be for ever. Whereas, when this Reform Bill shall have got itself passed—as it will do in spite of all that I can say—there will be no reason why I should not be in the Government, and in the Cabinet too. No, my Lord Derby, much obliged; but, *sic itur non astra*, yours is not the way to the stars; or, at all events, 'I can't see it.' Thus, or in some such manner, I have no doubt reflected Mr. Lowe; and, as to the rest, they followed their leader.

Whiteside, I hear, is to have the Irish judgeship to be vacated by Judge Lefroy. He ambitions, as the Americans say, the lord chancellorship; but it is more than doubted whether he will get it. Mr. Napier is to have that, they say, though he is almost as deaf as a post. At all events, we shall have no more of Whiteside's pyrotechny in the House of Commons; nor will Sir Fitzroy trouble the new Government with malt tax abolition, which, of course, will now assume a very different aspect to the Conservative mind. Sir Fitzroy is to be Chief Baron in place of Pollock, and thus be comfortably shelved for life. I suspect that Chelmsford's appointment to the woolsack was a necessity. If he had not been appointed Sir Fitzroy would have claimed it, and there are cogent reasons why the Conservative chiefs could not give it to him.

About the Tory Government generally I will say this week only this. It is a rickety edifice, and at the first shock of arms will go to pieces like a house of cards. I doubt, though, whether the shock can come this year. In ten days the re-elections will be over, and then the Government will huddle over the business of the Session, and as soon as possible get Parliament prorogued, and then, with ordinary care, they may keep in till March next year—not longer, I think; perhaps not so long if events should demand a winter Session.

Have any of your readers ever seen a specimen of the fine arts as developed in Dahomey? If not, they will find an example of it at South Kensington, in the shape of a large flag on which is represented a hunt. Three gamboge dogs of ferocious appearance are pulling down a slate-coloured deer. As far as I can make out, the animals are cut out of coloured damask and sewn on the ground—a white fabric something like coarse cambric. I cannot quite see whether the eyes, teeth, and other points are painted or embroidered. The animals are very spirited and tolerably correct in drawing. It is the first specimen of the artistic progress of Dahomey I have met with; and, if it may be taken as an average example, the curious in art who are so eager to collect Japanese pictures would do well to arrange for a supply from Dahomey. The flag hangs up at one end of the gallery devoted to the display of articles of food, a locality which is, considering the subject of the flag, selected with more regard to what is appropriate than is generally observable at the Boilers. I see the mosaics are progressing; but I think they will not look half so well as the original designs did, which used to occupy the niches. The *tesserae* appear too large for the size of the subjects, making the gradations of colour too abrupt, while the glare of the irregular surface of the gold utterly kills the figures. The process seems less adapted for small works than for such large designs as Mr. Hook's "Fishing" and Mr. Cope's "Sheep-shearing" (in which, by-the-way, the man is shearing as no man ever *did* shear since the day when wool was first invented) exhibited in another part of the building.

I am sorry to see it reported that Doré's designs for the "Idylls" are to be engraved on steel; for I cannot agree with the statement of the paragraph announcing the fact that "now, for the first time, justice will be done to Doré's powers." Doré is the artist of wood *par excellence*. His character and mastery of colour will be sadly deteriorated by translation by another hand to so limited a material as metal. Some of his pen-and-ink etchings might bear the process; but they can be rendered equally well on wood, whereas those designs on which his popularity is based—those done with "washers"—cannot possibly be rendered on steel.

As you know, my avocations—those of this particular Lounger. I mean—preclude the possibility of my enjoying a holiday of two or three weeks in summer, as is the privilege of most of my confreres, and, therefore, I am compelled to take my relaxation in snatches and in the immediate vicinity of London. In pursuance of this system—or necessity—then, I made a short run into my favourite, because convenient, region—Hertfordshire—the other day, and made a note of the progress and appearance of the crops on my route; and these are the results of my observations:—The hay crop is a remarkably fine one—even the farmers admit that—and a large portion of it has been secured in excellent condition. A good deal, however, remained out, and the heavy and prevalent rains since Saturday last will, no doubt, have done some damage and seriously obstructed the gathering. It would all, I believe, have been secured before the break in the weather but for the difficulty of finding labourers, who, it seems, have been remarkably scarce this year; a fact about which I am not, for one, particularly grieved, because it will have the effect, perhaps, of inducing the farmers to offer better pay and better treatment to their workpeople in future—things for which there is ample room in more districts than Hertfordshire. I saw one machine at work hay-cutting; but it did not strike me that it seemed "to answer," whether from faults of construction, bad management, or unsuitableness for the work, I know not; but it was continually getting choked and, I was told, broken. The wheats generally look well. The straw is strong, vigorous, and thick, and the heads large, full-eared, and free from "blacks." The barleys, I fancied, were light and rather backward, although I did see one field beginning to wear a yellow tinge. Oats seem a heavy crop; in fact, in some cases too heavy, for several fields I passed on Monday were sadly battered down with the rain. This grain is well in ear, and promises a good yield. Peas and beans seemed rather light and thin; but perhaps the late moisture may cure these defects. Potatoes everywhere looked well, but turnips in many fields appeared to be a failure. The process of thinning was going on in many parts; but, oh! how dreadfully overrun with weeds some fields were! The plants appeared positively smothered by parasites. I should be sorry to pretend to teach practical farmers their business; still it seems to me that a little more attention to clearing and weeding would pay the labour. On the whole, however, I think there is a fair prospect of a bounteous harvest—a thing for which all parties—producers and consumers alike, have reason to be grateful, particularly considering the losses occasioned by the cattle plague, and taking into account the possibility of some at least of our sources of supply on the Continent being cut off by the war.

A morning journal announces the sudden death of David Mallock, M.A., late of Westminster. Perhaps in the whole of that ancient city there was no man more thoroughly well known, respected, and beloved. He had received a scholarly education under Professor Wilson, and he was ever among the first to promote schemes of philanthropy and popular improvement among his fellow-citizens. He was one of the founders of the Westminster Mechanics' Institution, where he for many years worked gratuitously as a teacher of the Latin class. There is, probably, no degree of men in Westminster by whom the loss of David Mallock will not be regarded as that of a dear personal friend.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER
THE MAGAZINES.

In its political article *Blackwood* "recognises the growing reputation of Mr. Coleridge, while it deeply deprecates" his Liberalism. But there is something of more consequence than "reputation," and of that something Mr. Coleridge is a distinguished example. The something is variously called honour, principle, or magnanimity; but, at all events, it is so conspicuous in Mr. Coleridge as to have helped to shed some lustre of moral beauty on one of the meanest and most tricky Parliaments that ever disgraced the country. The most interesting thing in *Blackwood* is "Nina Balatka; the Story of a Maiden of Prague;" but there is a good article—good from the Tory point of view—on what the writer calls "The Principles and Issues of the American Struggle." There is also a spurt from O'Dowd on the European war, which is amusing; and the first part of an account of "Westminster School," which, of course, contains the immemorial anecdote about the two boys, one of whom tore the curtain, while the other took the flogging for him. Everybody knows that, later in life, the relation of the two people was reversed—the boy who tore the curtain, having become a Judge, saved from execution the old schoolfellow who had taken his flogging for him.

In the *Cornhill*, the author of the "Story of Elizabeth" opens, with a very pleasant realism, but, as almost everybody seems to think, with some little confusion of effect, the new story, "The Cottage on the Cliff." The first chapter is a sketch of a little fishing town in Normandy; and then we are introduced to "Two Catherine"—young lady and governess in the same house. Mr. Matthew Arnold concludes "The Study of Celtic Literature;" and he is as charming as ever. But why does he stop at talking of "the magic of style" and quoting examples of what he means by it? Why doesn't he analyse and show what the magic consists in? It could, like any other analysis, only consist in pushing things one step further; but, taking style as style simply, it would be as well to go as far as one could go. The *Cornhill* has this month an account of the wreck of the London, by a survivor—and a dreadful story, of course, it is. It adds nothing, I think, to our lights on the subjects, though the little touches with

which the narrative abounds are full of instruction for students of the human heart. Mr. Trollope, in "The Claverings," is as interesting as he knows how to be. "Such were the two rival claimants for the hand of Harry Clavering," are the last words of chapter xvi. We have surely heard something of the kind before from Mr. Trollope? But how gladly we surrender ourselves to the ingenuity which can persuade us for a time that we haven't! And Mr. Trollope is always so correct; his worst situations—as the world reckons—are "not so very fie-fie, after all."

But Mr. Charles Reade, in the *Argosy*, makes deep gashes in the story, as he goes along. Griffith Gaunt has actually married Mercy Vint, and has to be reconciled to his wife, whom he discovers to have been innocent. The task Mr. Reade has set himself is apparently this:—"You mealy-mouthed critics can't bear to read of such a bigamy; but you shall, for you'll read me; and I'll insert a bigamy in my story. And you sensation novelists shall be ashamed of your brutalities; for, in spite of the bigamy, I'll make my story as sweet as a haycock and as moral as 'Watts's Catechism.'" And he has been and gone and done it! It is not often a story excites me, Mr. Editor; I'm used up; but I do really want to see the next number of the *Argosy* before it comes out. This number contains a story by Mr. Trollope—an account, with specimens, of a Workhouse Poet, of whom more by-and-by; an article on the Music Hall Controversy, and a good deal more besides. This is a wonderful sixpennyworth. How do they manage to do it for the money?

An accident of antithetic construction has put the *Argosy*, which is only sixpence, before *Macmillan*, which is a shilling (shameful, isn't it?); but it is only an accident. *Macmillan* begins a new story, "Silcote of Silcotes," by Mr. Henry Kingsley, and vigorously, too, it opens; but that children are alike when asleep, or even nearly alike, I deny, though Mr. Kingsley says it. Children of the same family may, in exceptional cases, resemble each other very strongly, but that is all. Otherwise, children are quite as strongly differentiated as grown people; and I include babies in that dictum. There is, in the present number, an article on Mr. Melville Bell's "Visible Speech"—of which something was said in this column a long while ago, and a very interesting subject it is. Mr. Bell's friends seem to be displeased with the Government for not having noticed the matter when brought before them, but the Government have had their hands full! However, a Tory Government will at starting be conciliatory and polite; and I think Tories are readier than Liberals to "take up" things that they contract a fancy for. The rest of the number—consisting of papers relating to Mr. Hullah's "History of Music," "Cholera and Bad Water," the "First Reform Ministry," and some other matters—is interesting enough in a pleasant way; but not so pleasant is the following editorial intimation:—

The editor of *Macmillan's Magazine* announces, with great regret, that the publication of the Hon. Mr. Norton's story of "Old Sir Douglas" is discontinued in these pages. He is anxious that it should be understood that, if the readers of the magazine are thus deprived of the opportunity of following the progress of this powerful story in the pages in which it has been commenced, it is from a cause which could not be foreseen and which it has been found impossible to obviate.

I leave this to speak for itself. There is only one complaint to make of *Macmillan*—it is a little too unrelaxing in its gravity. Did anybody ever get a laugh out of *Macmillan*? Oh! I forgot the "Water Babies;" that was delightful; and, indeed, Mr. H. Kingsley, and the author of "Craddock Nowell," are both full of brightness and fire. Yet their writing has that quality of unrelaxingness (what a lovely word!) which is the characteristic of *Macmillan*. However, why should not a benefactor carry as grave a face as he likes? and a magazine like this is a benefactor.

The *Victoria* is a desirable magazine; but over-serious, too, I think. I must repeat the admiration I have expressed before about the criticisms of books in this periodical. They are always good; sometimes excellent.

THEATRICAL LOUNGER

THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE opened for the summer season on Monday. Mr. George Vining has inaugurated a system which, I hope, will be followed during the hot months by every manager in London and in the provinces. The performance does not begin until eight o'clock, and consists of one piece only. Of course that piece is in three acts; but an entertainment lasting from eight o'clock unto eleven is quite sufficient. "The Huguenot Captain," the new three-act drama, is the work of Mr. Watts Phillips. It is a very exciting, spirit-stirring affair, built upon what may be called the "Three Musketeer" principle—that is, it is full of *encomates*, duels, imprisonments, hair-breadth perils and escapes. As the incidents are evidently intended to occasion a series of constant surprises, it would be unfair to enter into any detailed description of them. The situations and incidents are familiar to melodrama, and it is only at the end of the first act that anything like a novel sensation is experienced by the audience. This one effect is most artfully and capriciously contrived, and the interest created by it is novel and material, and leaves an impression. The rest of the drama is somewhat commonplace, although highly effective, particularly where Mr. George Vining, as the Huguenot Captain, wings an aerial flight from the summit of a beacon tower into the Seine. To say that Mr. Watts Phillips's play has been mounted liberally would be to fall far short of the fact. No piece in my recollection has been so splendidly placed upon the stage. Even the costumes were designed in Paris by M. Marcelin, whom your Lounger knows to be a living, breathing entity, and no Mrs. Harris of the playbill, because he happens to have the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, and with whose richness of fancy he is familiar, having, in common with many compatriots, witnessed the *décolleté* magnificence of the "Biche au Bois," at the Porte St. Martin, and the realistic picturesqueness of "Le Capitaine Henriot," at the Opéra Comique. First, let me congratulate Messrs. Lloyds and Mr. Hann upon their scenery, which is called in the programme "Bits of Old Paris," but which would be better named "The Whole of Old Paris." There is the tavern of the White Cross, the Pont St. Michel; and a wonderful bed-chamber scene, the furniture of which seems to have been taken from the Hotel de Cluny and regilded, restuffed, recurtained, and revived generally; the esplanade of the Louvre, the water-gate of the Hotel d'Armenouville and the Grand Châtelet, with a bird's-eye view of Old Paris, a mechanico-scenic effect which drew round after round of applause from the audience until Mr. Lloyds appeared in the costume of this present Victorian era and bowed his acknowledgments. Then let me congratulate Mr. Charles Hall upon the joyous, characteristic dance-music which he has composed. And here let me say that the songs composed for the play by Mr. Hatton are not, in my poor opinion, of singular excellence; but this may be accounted for by the fact that they are all in praise of wine, and that the theme becomes monotonous. Mr. Milano too, has arranged an excellent ballet, full of "go" and character; but of this hereafter. Mr. George Vining plays the gallant Huguenot officer with a mixture of sangfroid and spirit. The character is the same as that of the gallant musketeer, Monsieur de Artagnan—fond of fighting for his own sake, and liable to fall in love for his own sake—which the people of Paris have approved of any time these twenty years. Mr. George Honey enacts a drunken sergeant, half bully and whole coward, with great effect, and he sings several bacchanalian songs—I don't know how many, but too many—in a voice so deep that it perilled one's watchworks. Mrs. Stirling received a most cordial welcome on Monday. It is entirely unnecessary to say how she acted. Miss Augusta Thompson is an admirable exponent of a young Bohemian, Juanita. She sang and acted most expressively. Miss Neilson, whose début at the New Royalty last year created so considerable a sensation, made her first appearance at the Princess's as Gabrielle. The part is not a very considerable one for a heroine, but Miss Neilson's youth, beauty, elegant bearing, and fresh and artless manner captivated her auditors at first sight, and held them in a spell of admiration until the fall of the curtain. The greatest things may be expected of this charming debutante when experience shall have ripened her powers and the favours of nature are indorsed by the

acquirements of art. One of the most noticeable features of the evening was the Ballet of Bohemians and Callot Dance, in which MM. Glodoché, Flageolet, Comète, and Normande made their first grotesque salute to the public of these islands. These artists are famous in Paris for their performances at several series of masked balls, and for their extraordinary Pas de Quatre in the spectacle of the "Lanterne Magique," at the Châtelet. It is impossible to describe their antics. I can only say that they do not appear to have any bones or joints, and that those they have are in the wrong places. Their dancing is weird, incomprehensible, and funny. It is dancing that makes one laugh, and that would make ladies laugh, and children; for there is nothing in it, not a motion or a look, that is vulgar or offensive to the most fastidious good taste or the most prurient propriety. At the hour of Clodoché, if your Lounger is within a mile of the Princess's, he will always go and see Clodoché and Compagnay try to beguile himself into the belief that he is in Paris.

The long-promised opera of "La Bella Hélène" was produced at the ADELPHI on Saturday, with considerable éclat. Mr. Burnand, the adapter of the libretto, has wrestled very successfully with the difficulties of putting English words to French music without embarrassing the singers or losing the flavour, verve, and point of the original rhymes. "Helen, or Taken from the Greek," is distinctly an opéra-bouffe, and not a modern burlesque; but, if they will bring out operas at theatres, that is the affair of the director and not of a Lounger. The Adelphi company did not originally acquire its celebrity as an opera troupe, consequently no one should be over critical as to its powers of musical execution. Mr. Toole is a most diverting Menelaus, and Mr. Paul Bedford a most solemn and pretentious high priest. Miss Woolgar, late Mrs. Alfred Mellon—no, Mrs. Alfred Mellon, late Miss Woolgar (which is it?), is the most attractive of shepherds ever favoured by three mythological goddesses during a quarrel as to the relative amount of personal beauty. The best part in the opera is naturally Helen, which is charmingly acted, sung, and looked by Miss Theresa Furtado. It is seldom that the qualifications of youth, dramatic talent, musical cultivation, and personal fascination are found united in the same person, and Miss Furtado is to be congratulated on her very exceptional and enviable possessions. But the chief charm of her personation of the beautiful cause of war between the Trojans and the Greeks is to be found less in her appearance, her acting, or her singing, than in the fact of these gifts being subordinated to a manner that happily combines sweetness with regal dignity. Miss Furtado never forgets that Helen is not only the wife of a king, but also the daughter of the cloud-compelling Jupiter himself. The Helen of the Adelphi is never oblivious, even in her love passages with Paris or her conjugal differences with Menelaus, that she is the exponent of queenly manners and celestial parentage. Miss Furtado will find that her acting and singing of Helen of Troy is an epoch in a professional career, the result of which was predicted in these columns a week after her début.

The HAYMARKET closes in a month, and Mr. Sothorn and the Haymarket company depart for a provincial tour.

Literature.

Travelling in Spain in the Present Day. By HENRY BLACKBURN. London: Sampson Low and Co.
Cosas de España: Illustrative of Spain and the Spanish as they Are. By Mrs. WILLIAM PITT BYRNE, Author of "Flemish Interiors," &c. London and New York: Alex. Strahan.

There is in English literature so very little concerning Spain, that, even in the face of a bad book on the subject, it would be reckless to "rest and be thankful" on the little that we have got. Richard Ford may, with poetic license, be said to have discovered Spain, although there was Mr. Borrow. Mr. George John Cayley's "Las Alforgas; or, The Bridle-roads of Spain," will be remembered as a successful book some fifteen years since; and last summer Mr. O'Shea's excellent "Handbook" met with due attention in these columns. This is all the Spanish literature that comes to the mind. Even Prim's revolution of a handful of soldiers only furnished as many columns to the hungry of our morning contemporaries; and so very little is known of the country, excepting its three countries, Don Quixote, Gil Blas, and Lazzarillo de Tormes, that a geographical Ben Brummel might almost be pardoned for asking, "Is there Spain?"

Mr. Blackburn and Mrs. Byrne (the witty lady would see a joke hovering around those names) come to assure us that Spain is living. There is no doubt of it. When you are bitten during the night, be certain of the existence of local vitality. The expression may be at once taken literally as well as figuratively of Spain, where the flea, "the constant companion of man," as Albert Smith said, is only a faint type of the nuisances that assail the traveller at every turning. Both our travellers are agreed in this; but they have agreed to differ in their way of taking things. Mr. Blackburn goes through the world easily, and sees much to admire as well as to condemn, and in all subject for graceful and amusing writing. Mrs. Byrne's position, on the other hand, is that of the matron, so familiarly known to his Worship and the active and intelligent constable as "a respectable married woman." Mrs. Brown herself is not more British than Mrs. Byrne; and if we add a little of the severity of Mrs. Grundy, and the un-Cannite-like audacity of Mrs. Partington, the precise travelling tone of Mrs. Byrne will be fairly sketched. Thus the pictures given by both are extremely difficult to reconcile, because so much depends on the point of view. Any reader, after a fair consideration of these two books, might sympathise with the Irish Judge who would not hear the other side of the case lest it should bother him. It seems absurd to attempt to try conclusions. Mrs. Byrne has had occasional attentions paid her. A labourer has moved a wheelbarrow of bricks from her path, and she has tendered a copper, which has been refused. This is recognised as true politeness. But, on the other hand, Mrs. Byrne complains of the universal habit of spitting, which makes thick soles and heels necessary on the street, the staircase, or in the room; and the staircase is made a little worse in winter than in summer because of the matting which is laid down. Mr. Blackburn, alluding to, and quoting Mr. Sala, in respect to railway travelling, distinctly says that carriages are set apart for ladies, but that there is no thought of politeness amongst the men. No gentleman can help being sorry for such people; but, at the same time, it is difficult to care for the feelings of strong-minded women, who stick up for their rights, and endeavour to go everywhere where ladies should not, and conduct themselves as English ladies are never known to do in their own country. Want of politeness, carelessness of rent in Madrid, impudence of servants, &c., are amongst Mr. Blackburn's complaints. A shopkeeper makes you feel yourself rather in the position of one asking, than conferring, a favour, "when, getting off your mule, you stumble into one of these little dark recesses and offer to make a purchase." But Mr. Blackburn is always

Like a gentleman at ease
With moral breadth of temperament.

Without going into any details of his descriptions, it is sufficient to say that they are broad rather than elaborate, and vivid enough for a fair imagination. A more pleasing book could not be written. The author uses the railways as little as possible, and is quite right in thinking that he sees Spain as most people would wish to see it, through the medium of the "Bridle-roads." Mrs. Byrne errs by being far too minute, too exclusive, too hot and irritable, too learned, and too comic. A very long description of an interior cannot fail to be dull to those who have never seen it; and there are dozens of such descriptions here. The reading public can imagine for itself the material advance which Spain may make by railways, and the world must lament that Spain does not consume her own coal instead of preying upon ours. But it is interesting to know that the pigs feed upon chestnuts, whilst the peasantry fatten upon acorns; and it must be delightful to the genealogical feeling of Sir

Bernard Burke to know that Mrs. Byrne, when failing to describe some secret part of a palace, declares that she "is not related to the boy Jones." Two thick volumes have tired us with details of dirty rooms, horrid cooking, eternal fights over money matters, and that general style of insisting on one's rights, of not giving in, of never seeing the humorous as well as the human side of whatsoever goes on upon earth, which are quite sufficient to deny to the mind its fair share of the world's pleasurable content. Mrs. Byrne cuts many jokes about *châteaux en Espagne*, and in every one of them she insists upon her Englishwoman's privilege of castle, and shuts herself out from human sympathy and kindness. For the rest, whilst the gentleman is only gentlemanlike in style, the lady is full of wit and learning and fine writing. Greek and Latin flow copiously through her pages, and she has read a book about Spain written a hundred years ago, and is hand-in-glove with Macanlay's article on the War of Succession. She is funny about the Toledo blades (the young men). She describes the "modernity" of something, the "Parisianism" of something else. Twice (vol. i., pp. 64 and 197) is there something worthy of Sheridan concerning a lean fowl and a *foul proceeding*. Something said about Spain is "witty because true." "One or two ladies have so far exceeded the ordinary limits of female capacity in Spain as even to dip the tip of their hose into the cerulean ink-bottle." These are grand passages; but foreign languages and fine writing are sometimes dangerous adornments. On one occasion Mrs. Byrne, disgusted with a dirty coffee-house, leaves it, and finds herself once more *sur le pavé*!

Another volume of this is promised.

The Billiard Book. By Captain CRAWLEY, Author of "Billiards: its Theory and Practice," &c. London: Longmans, Green, and Co.

Here is a large and magnificently got-up volume, well calculated to drive the mothers of England to despair. They will think it nothing less than sinful that such luxury of type and paper should be lavished upon a game only calculated to lead their dear Toms and Jacks to everlasting perdition, with premonitory touches of the Continent and the "Court." Such we believe to be the general ladylike view of the beautiful and graceful game of billiards—a game which, in itself, is probably as harmless as any which are nightly made to cheer the domestic hearth. Captain Crawley, as may be expected, looks upon it from a worshiper's point of view; but, without going fantastic lengths of adulation, it must be admitted that "the board of green cloth" is a fine field for recreation, tending firmly towards cementing social and friendly ties, and leading to no more vice or harm than that proportion of either which human nature always insists on conserving wherever their respective seeds may happen to be deeply planted. It would be idle to attempt to show that billiards is as healthy a diversion as cricket or boating; but the essence of amusement is that it should be varied, and, above all, the seasons must be consulted. A winter in a country house is materially enlivened by "knocking the balls about," and under such conditions or with any private table, billiards becomes essentially a lady's game. Mothers and daughters would do well to think of this, and also to reflect that the billiard-player, although the cigar or pipe may become an essential to him, is invariably, as far as drinking is concerned, a very abstemious man. Moreover, the actual exercise taken during play is recognised as walking at the rate of two miles per hour. As for stories about shoulders being levelled and spines being straightened by practice with the cue, it would be unwise to give too much credence to them; but it is certain that necks are never broken nor ribs fractured by any amount of indulgence in billiards, pyramid, or pool. Of the merits of Captain Crawley's handsome work it is sufficient to say that no one line seems wanting to make the young beginner thorough in theory; but he will soon find that everything depends upon practice; and he could not do better than place the book before him and work out on the table all the varieties of strokes to be made as shown in the fifty or sixty clearly-drawn diagrams. We do not think it at all so easy as Captain Crawley does, because some people seem as certainly born for billiards as others are for walking; and as in every knot of a few acquaintances there is sure to be at least one with a notion of dancing that might seem to be active to a tortoise and graceful to an elephant, so surely will there be one or two who never can so equalise the use of the elbow and the wrist as to make the simplest carrom, to say nothing of these danger strokes with which the game of pool abounds. A guinea will be well laid out on this volume at the commencement of a career. It will be a guide-book to every private table, and may tend to call many future private tables into existence. But the young beginner, who, of course, must aspire to play well, must beware of infatuation. Unless it be born in the blood, great excellence will seldom be attained. "The spot stroke, for instance, may be learned in an hour; but to enable a man to repeat that particular stroke for an indefinite number of times, requires almost as much application as the learning of a new language or the solution of a difficult mathematical problem." If the first rule of the game should be to "keep your temper," the second should be certainly to "avoid bad society." The latter, however, appears to be difficult; for Captain Crawley speaks of bad society as being everywhere. He says that "scores of well-born cadets and fine gentlemen disdain not to descend to ungentlemanly tricks for the sake of loose half-crowns and stray sovereigns;" and that many a scion of a noble house ekes out his income by billiards. If that be flung as a taunt in the teeth of billiards, the answer is simple: that the same people might do the same at cards or at bowls, and that knowing young ladies might supply themselves with gloves by catching "flats" at croquet. It is the want of honour which is at fault; not the game.

A Century of Painters of the English School. By RICHARD REDGRAVE, R.A. (Surveyor of her Majesty's Pictures and Inspector-General for Art), and SAMUEL REDGRAVE. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

The respectable old assertion that theory is infinitely easier than practice, receives from this work a very strong confirmation. Mr. Redgrave, whose pictures, pleasing as they are (especially when confined to landscape), are yet far from ranking among the best works of the British school; Mr. Redgrave, who is the lord and master of art-education at South Kensington Museum—an institution so fatally famous for its failure as a school and its popularity as a show—has written one of the most amusing and instructive works on English art that it has been our good fortune to meet with. His success is an illustration of the words of the backsliding divine who bade his hearers do as he preached and not as he practised, reminding us of the singular instance of an actor whose "pupils" are as good as his own acting is bad.

Whether Mr. Redgrave's teaching, as set forth in this work, is sound enough to survive rigid critical examination, we will not pretend to decide, frankly confessing that his pleasant gossip has entirely disarmed our judicial intentions. Lulled to sleep by his agreeable talk about Reynolds and Romney, Hogarth and Haydon, Gainsborough, Turner, and Fuseli, the dragon of criticism has allowed him to take the Hesperian apples of approval unquestioned. To speak without figure, the book abounds in so much novel information and anecdote that it is hardly worth while to pause and inquire whether the British Institution is not somewhat too severely handled and the Royal Academy too lavishly lauded; whether the artists Mr. Redgrave holds up as models are so much to be valued when we consider what results he has achieved by their study, with other questions which, however valuable to artists, are of little interest to the general public. We may, nevertheless, mention in passing that Mr. Redgrave's opinion as to the uses of certain pigments, and his dissertations on the methods of various painters, are really valuable, coming as they do from one who has a professional knowledge of the technicalities, and who has had unusual opportunities of studying old pictures, and examining the permanence or evanescence of the various mediums and manners employed on them. As a biographical summary of the English

school of painters, the work is of great merit; as an interesting collection of anecdotes of a peculiar and often eccentric class, it will win many admiring readers.

A Biographical and Critical Dictionary of Recent and Living Painters and Engravers. By HENRY OTTLEY. London: Henry G. Bohn.

This work professes to be compiled with a view to supplement Stanley's edition of "Bryan's Dictionary of Painters and Engravers." As that edition was published fourteen years ago, the compiler of this appendix has had more than sufficient time to elaborate his undertaking, and we have a right to expect a fairly exhaustive catalogue of the artists of the present time. Painters do not spring into fame in a day, or even a year, and the task, therefore, was scarcely more difficult than the arrangement of Dod's Parliamentary Guide. But the results of Mr. Ottley's labours are by no means as satisfactory as that *Vade Mecum* of politicians. Despite a long preface, in which he details the ingenious methods by which he endeavoured to gather materials for his dictionary—methods which resolve themselves practically into the British Museum and the British Circular, with a dash of the British Bookseller—we are compelled to own that Mr. Bohn has every right to apologise, as he does in a "publisher's notice," for many omissions. We may remark, in passing, that the way in which he and his editor bandy about the responsibility at the outset of the volume is not calculated to inspire confidence, but rather to suggest that they should have delayed the publication of a book which neither seems anxious to father until it be more complete. We have applied to it the very simple test of looking up in its pages some of the rising artists of the day, and in many instances have found no record of them. The fact that some artists were too busy and some too diffident to fill up Mr. Ottley's circular, cannot be held sufficient excuse for this shortcoming. We are bound to admit that, as far as we can ascertain, the dates and particulars are, as a rule, correct; but the value of the critical remarks incorporated with the notices may be gathered from the fact that the *Art-Journal* appears to be by Mr. Ottley's great authority as to the merits of an artist. We trust that in future editions Mr. Bohn, according to promise, will give us a larger "instalment of his intentions" to supply a sound and copious artistic biograph. With regard to the introduction of "more of the mercantile element," we are not quite decided as to its advisability. Indeed, we should be almost inclined to suggest its diminution, by the omission, for instance, of the information that Mr. Bohn is the publisher of a quarto volume of Landseer's contributions to the *Sporting Magazine*.

How to Cook Potatoes in One Hundred Different Ways. By GEORGINA HILL, Author of "How to Cook Eggs," &c. London: Routledge and Sons.

Considering how universal is the use, and how immense is the consumption, of the potato, it is remarkable how few people there are who know how to cook this valuable vegetable. In not one out of ten of the dining-houses of London can a really eatable potato be obtained; and the same remark is applicable to private houses. This almost solely arises from the fact that not one cook in ten understands how to deal with the occult. It matters little what the quality of the potatoes may originally have been, they are almost invariably spoiled in the cooking. Mrs. Georgina Hill, therefore, has done good service in telling us how potatoes ought to be cooked; and on that ground we recommend her book to all professors of the culinary art, whether in public or in private establishments.

The Royal Guide to the London Charities for 1866-7. Edited by HERBERT FRY. London: Hardwicke.

We last year noticed this useful "Guide to the London Charities," and the new edition for the present and next year is a considerable improvement on its predecessors. The "Guide" has now received the stamp of Royal favour, and has in consequence had the word "Royal" prefixed to its title. This is a proof that the pains taken by the editor are appreciated in high quarters, as they no doubt are by those for whose convenience the book has been compiled.

Step by Step; or, New and Easy Lessons on the Sliding Rule for the Use of Practical Mechanics. By CHARLES HOARE. London: Clayton and Co.

Mr. Hoare's little manual must be a great help to those whose avocations make the use of the sliding rule and a knowledge of its principles necessary. The directions given are plain, simple, and easily mastered; and the book, we are sure, will be appreciated by those for whom it is designed.

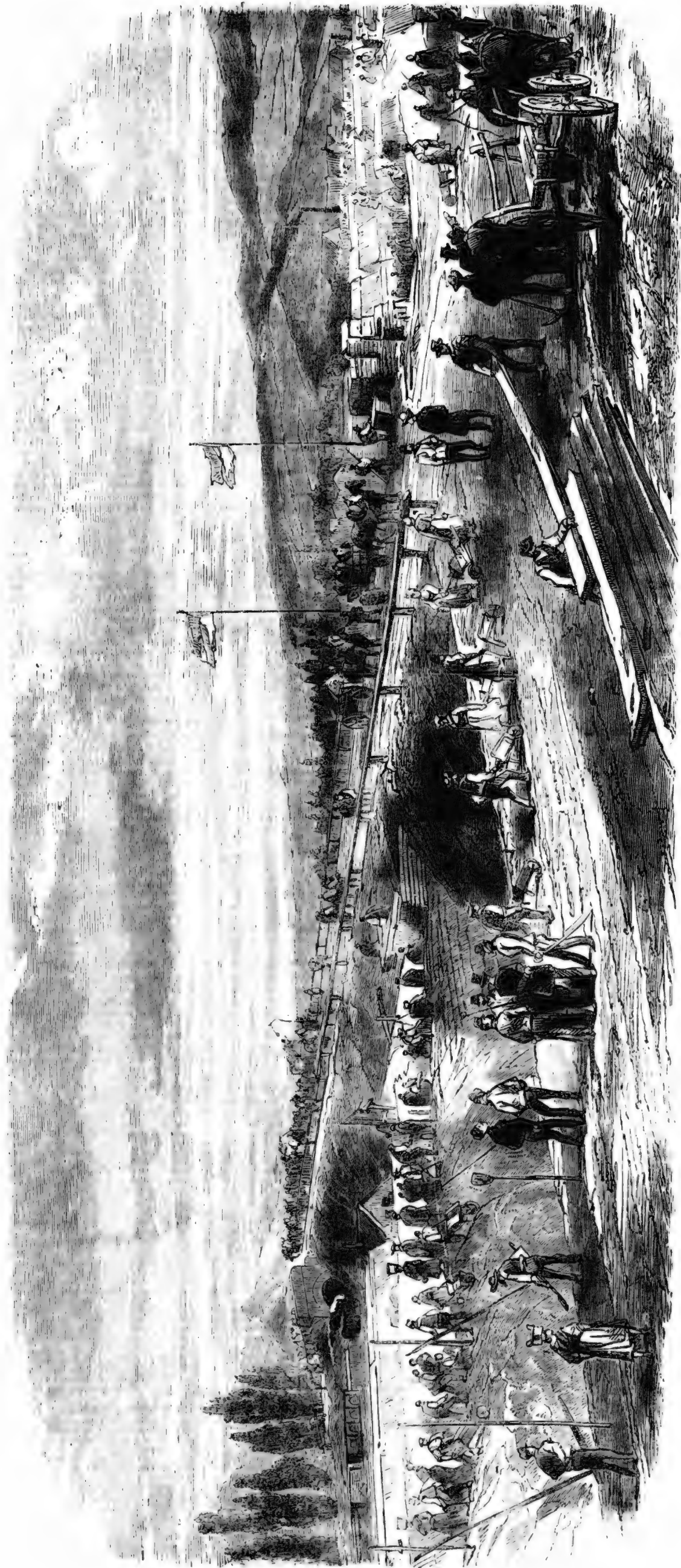
Books on Popular Games: Cricket and Football.

This is the reason for out-of-door sports and games; and hence it is, we suppose, that publishers are every where issuing works on such subjects. We lately had occasion to notice a series of game-books published by Messrs. Chambers; and now we have before us books on Football and Cricket, issued by Mr. Beeton, together with a re-issue of one on Clôquet, and another on Cricket, by Edmund Routledge, and published by Routledge, Warne, and Routledge. All these little manuals contain useful instruction in reference to the games of which they treat.

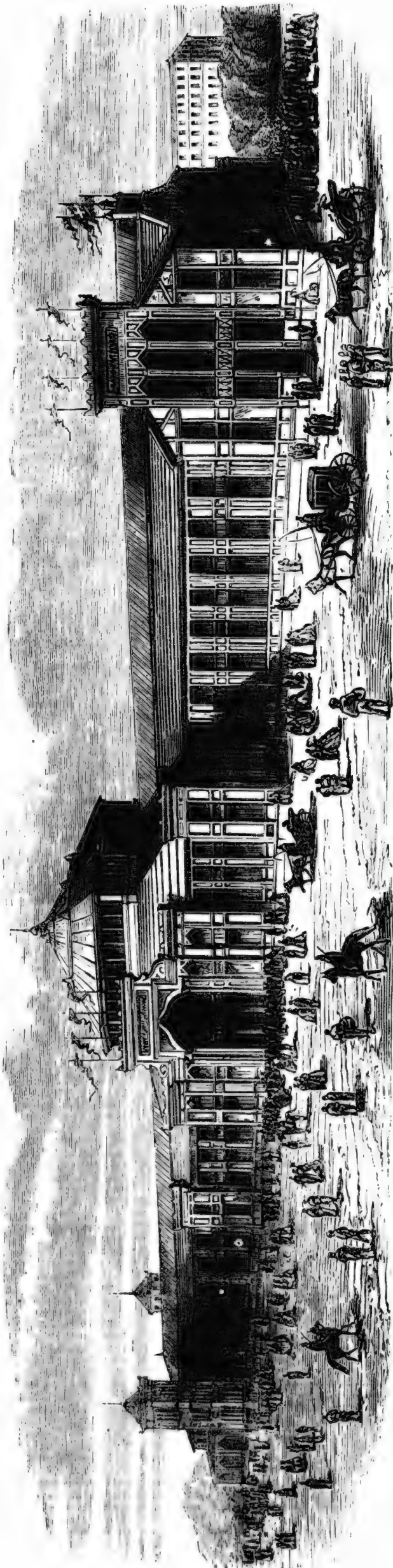
GETTING OUT OF A DIFFICULTY.—The following anecdote is now current in Florentine society:—"A ballet dancer at Venice, while dancing at the theatre there, had a bouquet thrown her with a ribbon in the Italian colours. She immediately kissed the ribbon, which created tremendous enthusiasm among the audience. After the performance she was called to the police office and sharply reprimanded for this act of patriotism. She excused herself by saying that in kissing the bouquet she had only followed the universal custom on such occasions; but the authorities would not accept this excuse, and told her that another time she should not kiss the bouquet, but tread it under foot. The following evening another bouquet was thrown, and the dancer, in compliance with her instructions, trod it under foot, again amid frantic applause. The ribbon round the bouquet was, however, this time not red, green, and white ribbon, but black and yellow—the colours of Austria."

SUNSTROKE SALMON.—Several hundreds of salmon and salmon-trout were found upon Burgh Marsh, on the Cumberland shore of the Solway Firth, last week, under very extraordinary circumstances. Many were lying dead upon the marsh, where they had been left dry by the receding tide; and others were left floating languidly about in the small pools of water on the shore, in a sickly and dying state. As the coastguard men had been exercising a close surveillance over the nets at Bowness and Port Carlisle during the week, it was at first conjectured that these fish had been thrown out by fishermen who had been infringing the law by fishing at improper times. This supposition, however, proved incorrect; and the conjecture that they had been poisoned was also abandoned as absurd. Old fishermen of the district have now arrived at the conclusion that the salmon, in making their way up the shallow water near the estuaries of the rivers, had been visited by something like a sunstroke, the weather having been hotter than had been experienced for many years. The fish were picked up by the inhabitants of the district, to whom they afforded many cheap and dainty meals.

IMPROVEMENT OF IRELAND.—In the year ending with March, 1866, the Irish Board of Public Works issued £48,216 on loan under the Land Improvement Acts. In that twelvemonth 4775 acres of land were drained. The average cost of thorough drainage under these Acts has been £5 2s. 6d. an acre. Since the passing of the Act of 1850, 243 loans, amounting to £85,910, for the erection of farm buildings, have been sanctioned by the board; and as with the drainage works, so with these—they are so executed as to afford examples to proprietors who desire to proceed with private funds. Under the Act of 1864, fifty loans, amounting to £22,170, for the erection of dwellings for agricultural labourers, have been sanctioned by the board. Some of the Board of Works' inspectors notice, in their reports, the scarcity of able-bodied labourers to execute improvements, and the consequent necessity of paying a high price for labour. The wages for ordinary permanent farm labourers in the north-west are stated at 19s. to 1s. a day, except in harvest time; but drainage work is generally set by task. On some of the inland navigations the removal of the new weed, "anacharis alismatum," continues to be a source of expense; it obstructs the flow of water, and in wet weather, where small streams enter the embankments, they would be overflowed if the weed were not cleared out.



WORKS IN PROGRESS FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF VIENNA.

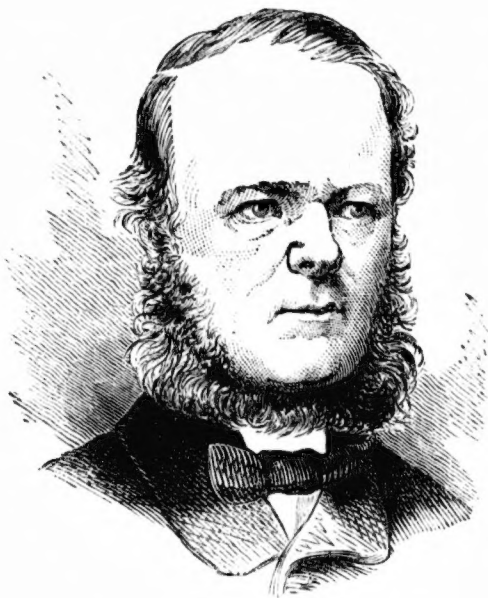


THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION BUILDING, STOCKHOLM.

ITALIAN GENERALS.

We this week illustrate our pages with the Portraits of a group of Italian Generals. The names of some of these warriors are well known to fame, while those of others have as yet scarcely been heard of beyond the precincts of their own country.

General Enrico Cialdini, the most important man, perhaps, in the group, was born at Modena, in 1813, or early in the following year. He marched with General Zucchi to aid the Romagna insurrection at Bologna, in 1831, and after the Austrian intervention in Central Italy he was obliged to emigrate. His father had been arrested, and was poisoned by slow doses of belladonna in the dungeons of the Duke of Modena. Cialdini went to Paris, where he studied chemistry under M. Thénard and was preparing to study medicine,



ADMIRAL PERSANO.



GENERAL CUCCHIARI.



GENERAL CIALDINI.



GENERAL DURANDO.

when a proposa was made to him to go Spain as a soldier. He went, and took part in the war of succession, and the revolution of 1848 found him a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Spanish service. Mazzini recommended Cialdini to the Provisional Government of Milan, which was in want of officers, and a letter from the secretary of that Government found him out in Aragon. Cialdini obeyed the call; but on arriving at Milan he found that Lombardy had given herself up to Charles Albert, and governed herself in his name. It was not the moment for hesitating; the King had just been beaten, and Italy was about to become a prey to Austria. Cialdini enrolled himself in the corps of General Durando; he marched on Vicenza, and there received three dangerous wounds, and was for a year reduced to a state of helplessness. Cialdini was sent, in 1855, to the Crimea by the Sardinian Government, with the rank of General, and played a distinguished part in the battle of the Tchernaya. In the war in Italy, in 1859, Cialdini was the first in the allied army who fired a shot on the enemy, executing the passage of the Sesia under the fire of the Austrians, whom he drove from their position. This corps-d'armée then went into the mountains to act in the Tyrol. The peace of Villafranca checked him in his career.



GENERAL DELLA ROCCA.



ITALIAN SOLDIERS CHANTING PATRIOTIC HYMNS IN FRONT OF HEAD-QUARTERS AT CREMONA.

In 1860 he defeated the Papal army under Lamoricière at the battle of Castelfidardo; and in 1861 he took Gaeta, after a bombardment of seventeen days. Fifteen days after, Cialdini also took the citadel of Messina. He had been made a Major-General after the campaign of the Umbria, and, after his capture of Messina, the King nominated him General of the Army, a rank equivalent to that of Field Marshal. In 1861 he was appointed Viceroy of Naples, with full power to suppress brigandage, a mission which he discharged successfully. Since then, Cialdini has been engaged in carrying on the work of organising the Italian army; and on the approach of hostilities with Austria he was appointed to the command of a corps-d'armée, and had assigned to him the duty of attacking the enemy in Venetia from the Po. The disaster to the King's army on the 24th ult., however, appears to have checked the operations of Cialdini; but he will no doubt make himself heard of as soon as affairs are in trim for another move.

General Jacques Durando, born about the year 1810, was a law student in 1833, and when the constitutional movement commenced in Italy, he and his brother took an active part in it. Soon, however, in order to avoid imprisonment or the scaffold, they were obliged to seek refuge in Spain, where they entered the army. Being brave and intelligent, they soon rose through the different grades, and in 1845 the elder brother, Giovanni, then commandant at Milan, was raised to the rank of General, and the younger brother to that of Colonel. Having afterwards obtained leave to return to Piedmont, they spent their time in retirement and study. Jacques Durando published a work on "Italian Nationality," which tended to popularise the national movement. In the war of 1848 the General commanded the volunteers, and was afterwards Aide-de-Camp to King Charles Albert. In the interval he was one of the most active promoters of the constitutional régime, and founded the *Opinione* at Turin, which he directed for some months. After the defeat of the Italians by Radetski, General Durando was sent to Genoa as Commissioner Extraordinary to oppose Mazzinianism, which he did with as much tact as success. After that time he remained in the background until 1855, when the question of Piedmont taking part in the Crimean expedition was mooted, and he showed himself to be one of the first orators in the Parliament of Turin. Count Cavour afterwards made him Minister of War, in which post he continued during the Crimean War, and subsequently Minister to Constantinople. He was for three months, in 1862, on leave of absence at Turin, when M. Ratazzi offered him the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Durando commands a division of the army under the King and Della Marmora. He was wounded in the battle of the 24th ult., and a report is in circulation that to his rashness was due the fact that that engagement was brought on prematurely, and he is saddled with a large share of the blame of the disaster; so much so, indeed, that, according to a letter from the army, the King has refused to see him since that unfortunate event.

Of Generals Cucchiari and Della Rocca we know comparatively little, except that both hold important commands in the Italian army and have a reputation for gallantry and skill in their profession. Della Rocca, we believe, is a Sicilian, and, we think, held the portfolio of Minister at War for a short period some years ago.

The name of Admiral Persano is known throughout Europe. He it was who commanded the Italian fleet during the siege of Gaeta, to the fall of which stronghold and the disappearance of Francis II. from Neapolitan soil he greatly contributed. He is said to be a brave, skilful, and able seaman. He is now in command of the whole Italian fleet, the latest movements of which are detailed in a letter from the Adriatic dated the 27th ult. This letter says:—"On the night from the 23rd to the 24th, and also from the 24th to the 25th, we were on our way from Taranto, having left that place on the 21st inst. A very vigilant look-out was kept, as we felt convinced that we should be attacked. The crews were impatient for the signal from the flagship which should call them to prepare for action. Unfortunately, however, these hopes were vain. On Monday evening we arrived at Ancona. Admiral Persano, who is really a miracle of activity and energy, ordered, very prudently, that instead of casting anchor we should only secure the vessels by moorings, in order to be ready to move at any moment. This proved to be a providential foresight. This morning, at half-past four o'clock, a gun from the flagship called us all to arms. The Exploratore had signalled some steamers on the verge of the horizon. Admiral Persano was the first on deck. The Exploratore, which has a great rate of speed, proceeded out until she came within range of the enemy. Their squadron numbered sixteen ships, six of which were iron-clad. When near them the Exploratore hoisted the Italian tricolour, which act provoked a furious cannonade from the Austrians. She received one shot in the hull which did very slight damage, and, having accomplished her object, rejoined the fleet, which immediately formed in order of battle. Admiral Persano, accompanied by the chief of his Staff, D'Amico, and his principal officers, including Deputy Boggio, went on board the Exploratore in order to be better able to take up his position wherever his presence might be most necessary. In a very short time the first line of the Italian ironclads, consisting of the Maria Pia, Terribile, and Formidabile, confronted the enemy, followed by the other ironclads, the wooden vessels bringing up the rear. But the enemy hardly waited to see us form before he got up steam and withdrew with all speed, being entirely out of sight at eight o'clock. There was some question of pursuit, but it was finally decided to relinquish this idea. The enemy had the advantage of us by five or six miles. They had also taken the precaution to turn the heads of their vessels in the opposite direction immediately upon seeing that we were prepared for an engagement. It was not possible to give chase with the whole squadron united. We should have reached the enemy one, two, or three ships at a time. This would be of no consequence with an enemy weaker than ourselves, but in the present case would not have been advisable. At about eleven o'clock the fleet returned to its anchorage. An English gun-boat followed the whole of our movements. The greatest harmony prevails among the officers of the squadron, and the spirit of the men could not be better."

THE FORTIFICATIONS OF VIENNA.

WE have already mentioned that the fortifications at Vienna were going on rapidly, and that numbers of labourers have been set to work to extend and strengthen them. It would appear, from the severe losses which the army has sustained and the gradual concentration of the Prussian forces, that these works may be required to defend the capital of Austria itself against the enemy, and they are being pushed forward almost night and day.

Our Engraving represents the operations going on at the head of the Northern Bridge, near Florisdorf, a village close to Vienna. The projected fortifications will embrace the whole space of land which extends from Bisamberg, by the Marchfeld, towards Wagram, upon the Danube.

THE SCANDINAVIAN EXHIBITION AT STOCKHOLM.

Now that the Rhine is doubtful and Continental haunts are, many of them, closed to sojourners who desire to find an agreeable retreat for the coming season, it is something to be able to direct the attention of such of our readers who look forward each year to foreign travel, to a new journey with a definite object.

Those who are already acquainted with the capital of Sweden will scarcely require any additional inducement to revisit it. "The Swedes," says Bayard Taylor, "are proud of Stockholm, and justly so. No European capital, except Constantinople, can boast such picturesque beauty of position, and none whatever affords so great a range of shifting yet ever lovely aspects. Travellers are fond of calling it, in the imitative nomenclature of commonplace, 'the Venice of the North;' but it is no Venice. It is not that swan of the Adriatic, singing her death-song in the purple sunset, but a northern eagle, nested on the islands and rocky shores of the pale green Mälen lake. The Stad, or city proper, occupies three islands, which lie in the mouth of the narrow strait, by which the waters of the lake, after having come a hundred miles from the westward and washed

in their course the shores of 1300 islands, form themselves into the outer archipelago which is claimed by the Baltic Sea. On the largest of these islands, according to tradition, Agne, King of Sweden, was strangled with his own golden chain by the Finnish Princess Skiofla, whom he had taken prisoner. This was 1600 years ago; and 1000 years later, Birger Jarl, on the same spot, built the stronghold which was the seed out of which Stockholm has grown."

This island and the adjoining Riddarholm, or Island of the Knights, contain all the ancient historic landmarks of the city, and nearly all its most remarkable buildings. The towers of the Storkyrka and the Riddarholm church lift themselves high into the air; the dark red mass of the Riddarhus, or House of Nobles, and the white turrets and quadrangles of the Penitentiary are conspicuous among the old white, tile-roofed blocks of houses; while rising above the whole, the most prominent object in every view of Stockholm, is the Royal Palace or Slot, one of the noblest Royal residences in Europe. Standing on an immense basement terrace of granite, its grand quadrangle of between 300 ft. and 400 ft. square, with wings (resembling in general design the Pitti Palace at Florence), is elevated quite above the rest of the city, which it crowns as with a mural diadem. The chaste and simple majesty of this edifice, and its admirable proportions, are a perpetual gratification to the eye, which is always drawn to it as a central point, and thereby prevented from dwelling on whatever inharmonious or unsightly features there may be in the general view.

Splendid bridges of granite connect the island with the northern and southern suburbs, and the palace fronts directly upon the Norrbo, or northern bridge, the great thoroughfare of Stockholm. The northern suburb is the fashionable quarter, containing the newest streets and the best private residences. The streets in most cases follow the undulations of the hills on which they are built; but the southern suburb is one long hill, crowned with the Church of St. Catherine on the very summit. In front of the city lie two other islands, connected by bridges with the northern suburb; and still beyond is the Djingard, or deer park, a singularly picturesque island, nearly the whole of which is a public park, around which are a few summer villas. This park is very beautiful.

There is now, however, a new building, which may be a counter-attraction to the park itself; for on the 15th of last month the Great Industrial Exhibition of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Finland was inaugurated. The Swedish exhibitors amount to 2600, and those of the other three countries amount to about 1400.

The scheme has been organised under the orders of the King; and Prince Oscar, who is well remembered in England since the Exhibition in 1862, has worked in the most hearty combination with the industrial interests, represented by persons eminent in art and work, so that we may fairly presume that what is to be seen is a real representation of the state of art and industry in those far-away countries, and congratulate the four nations upon the happy result.

The Exhibition building is a fine structure, combining strength with architectural beauty and aerial lightness, especially seen from the platform in the centre, where is placed a beautiful stucco cascade, modelled in person by Molin, the eminent artist, who is well known in England by his group "The Wrestlers." The fountain represents the "Necken," the divinity of the waters in the old "Sagas," surrounded by his water nymphs and playing on his harp—a good introduction to the treasures of the mineral kingdom, for which these countries are well known. The fountain is surrounded by fine works in jewellery and porcelain, and in both wings are displayed the several articles customary in such exhibitions, but arranged in a way which may well be said to equal, while it offers some variety from, what has been seen in other and more extensive buildings having a similar object.

ITALIAN TROOPS AT CREMONA.

THE name of Cremona is probably principally associated in the minds of our readers with the peaceful recollection of the music of violins, for it was here that the family of Amati kept up the manufacture of those celebrated instruments for one hundred years, and was then succeeded by Stradivarius and Guarnerius. Cremona is now, however, the centre of the din, and pomp, and circumstance which attend the preparations for a renewal of the war, and our Engraving represents a scene which is frequently to be seen in its streets—streets which are ordinarily dull and uninteresting enough even for a third-rate city on the left bank of the Po. The ancient palaces of Cremona are beautiful specimens of architecture, the cathedral is a wonderful pile of jumbled styles of building of all dates, and the lofty and lovely tower called the Torrazzo is a thing of beauty and a joy for ever; but in other respects the whole place, surrounded as it is by walls and wet ditches, is as dull as any Italian city can be, and that is saying a good deal.

Just now, however, dullness is driven away by the fanfare of trumpets and the tattoo of drums as the cavalry are called together, and the regiments of infantry parade the streets singing the national hymns and shouting the cries with which they shortly expect to cheer each other on to battle.

DECAYED CARVINGS BY GRINLING GIBBONS.—Lord Monson has lately intrusted Mr. G. A. Rogers with the restoration of the carvings executed by Gibbons for his Lordship's Gattin estate. They consist of fruit, birds, fish, and flowers of almost every description. Worms and beetles had attacked these magnificent works with so much ardour that their entire destruction was almost completed, the interior of the wood being reduced to powder and the surface perforated with countless holes. The restoration, which required great care and was of a time-taking character, was as follows:—Mr. Rogers had them removed to his studio and had them photographed; he then separated all the joints and loose pieces, and destroyed all insect-life by means of corrosive sublimate and other poisons. The next operation was to scrape all the powdered and rotten portions away from the back, and fill the holes thus made with a soft, hardening substance, so as to give strength to the fabric. Then the holes on the front surface had to be stopped with a poisoned cement, and the whole remounted by aid of the photographs. Lord Monson has kindly given to Mr. Rogers a specimen of the decayed carving, that he may show the state the carvings were in to those interested in the art. The Gibbons carvings, together with many of Mr. Rogers's own works, will remain on view at his studio, No. 33, Maddox-street, for a short time, by permission of his Lordship.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY BY A SERVANT GIRL.—At the Derby Police Court, on Monday, a respectable-looking young woman, who gave the name of Norah Grice, was charged with stealing £19 18s. 4d. Inspector Fearnie made the following extraordinary statement to the Bench:—He said that the prisoner lived as domestic servant at Mrs. Lloyd's, who keeps the Christian Knowledge Society's Depot, Friar-gate, and who also sold the articles made by the inmates of the Midland Institution for the Blind, at Nottingham. The Rev. S. Fox, of Morley, was the local secretary to the depot, which was managed by Mrs. Lloyd. On Saturday evening Mrs. Lloyd deposited between £19 and £20 in a cashbox on stairs. On Sunday evening Mrs. Lloyd went to church, accompanied by the prisoner, the house being locked up. At the church-doors they separated, for the purpose of sitting in separate pews. The service being over, they met again at the church-door, and walked home together. When they got to the house, the prisoner tried to unlock the door, and, on putting the key in, she said, "Oh, dear! there is something amiss with the lock." The door, however, was unfastened, and, on going into the house, the window leading into the garden was found open. They then went up stairs and found that the cashbox was gone, containing £19 18s. 4d. Detectives Vessey and Spiby were called in, and, after hearing Mrs. Lloyd's statement, they went away and consulted him (Fearnie); and he then gave it as his opinion that the robbery had been committed by some one connected with the house. About ten o'clock on Sunday evening Mr. Welbourne called at the police station and asked for them to go again to the house, and they did so. Mrs. Lloyd then said that the passage bell had rung, and she told prisoner to answer it, and the latter said it was of no use, as it was a "runaway" ring. The prisoner then left the room, and in a few minutes afterwards the bell again rang, and the prisoner rushed into the room to Mrs. Lloyd, and said, "Oh! dear, the bell rung. I opened the door, and some little dirty fellow threw this purse of money into my face. And this is the money of the poor blind." The purse was opened and found to contain £7 11s. 3d. He (Fearnie) again questioned prisoner about being at church, and she said she had been there, and even went so far as to tell him the text. She also asked him how he dare insinuate that she had committed the robbery. He told her he should take her into custody, when she said she would tell all about it. She then said that she went into the church with her mistress, came out again, and went to the house and committed the robbery; and that in addition to the £7 11s. 3d. already given up, he would find the remainder buried under a tree in the garden, amounting to £11 7s. 1d. He (Fearnie) went and found the money as described.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE star of Meyerbeer's opera, as it is at present represented in Mr. Gye's Anglo-Italian version, is unquestionably Mlle. Adelina Patti. Mlle. Patti delivers the quaint couplets, in which Caterina announces the fortunate result of her mission on behalf of her brother to the father of Prascovia—her brother's intended wife—in the liveliest style, and imitates the gestures and tone of the old man with more humour than the representatives of Caterina have hitherto been in the habit of showing. Nor can anything be more spirited than her singing of the gipsy rondo, a charming and very original air, with which the broken, uncouth phrases uttered by the wild barbarians, whom the librettist calls at random "Calmucks" and "Cossacks," contrast in the most effective manner.

However, "L'Etoile du Nord" is the opera of all others in which it is useless to specify the manner in which particular pieces are sung. On the occasion of its reproduction, the other night, the audience applauded the principal singers at the end of each act, and seemed generally delighted with the performance; but there were no encores; nor does the opera greatly depend upon the effect of individual pieces, and least of all upon that of solos. On this head it will be enough to say that Mlle. Adelina Patti sings all her music to perfection, and that her performance in the scene where the demented Caterina recovers her reason is worthy of the great actress Mlle. Patti has so often shown herself to be.

M. Faure finds music more suited to his voice and style in the part of Peter—as in those of Huel in "Dinorah" and of Nelusko in "L'Africaine"—than in most of the Italian parts assigned to him. On the whole, in a vocal as well as in a picturesque and dramatic point of view, M. Faure's performance is entitled to high praise, and we may safely say that no better representative of the character of the hero could be found.

The tenors in "L'Etoile du Nord" are very unimportant personages; but Signor Naudin sings the air written by Meyerbeer for Gardoni, when the work was first brought out at the Royal Italian Opera, with much expression; and Signor Neri-Baraldi does what he can with the part of Giorgio. Mlle. Lemmens-Sherrington is a lively and intelligent representative of Prascovia; and Signor Ciampi gives an appropriately grotesque physiognomy to Gritzenko, that impossible character who seems to represent all parts of Russia and all sorts of regiments in the Russian army, and who is, turn by turn, a Calmuck, a Cossack, and an infantry soldier of the Imperial Guard.

At Her Majesty's Theatre, Mozart's "Seraglio" ("Die Entführung aus dem Serail") has been produced with great success. This opera, which had not been played in London since 1854, when it was performed, under the direction of Mr. Smith, at Drury Lane, is now the chief "classical" attraction at Her Majesty's. "Robert le Diable" was to have been brought out on Thursday.

Our great orchestral societies have already finished their work for the season. The Musical Society of London, the youngest of all these associations, was the first to close its doors; then the New Philharmonic gave in; and now we have heard the last of the Old Philharmonic for the present year. At the concluding concert of the Old Philharmonic series Mozart's symphony in C (No. 1); Beethoven's heroic symphony; Professor Bennett's overture, "The Wood Nymph"; Weber's "Jubilee"; Schumann's pianoforte concerto in A minor (admirably played by Herr Jaell), and a few vocal pieces (executed by Mlle. Titiens and Herr Gunz), made up the programme.

The regular series of the New Philharmonic terminated with a concert, at which Beethoven's symphony in C minor, Spohr's overture to "The Alchemist," Mendelssohn's overture to the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and Weber's overture to "The Ruler of the Spirits" were executed; and at which one of our best and most promising musicians, Mr. John Barnett, played Beethoven's Concerto in G.

Mr. Benedict's annual concert is an entertainment at which many of the best players and nearly all the best singers in London are to be heard. As for the programme, it included, last Wednesday, between forty and fifty pieces, while the names figured in it of Mlle. Pauline Lucca, Mlle. Maria Vilda, Mlle. Biancolini, Mlle. Artot, Signor Mario, Signor Fancelli, and M. Faure, from the Royal Italian Opera; and of Mlle. Titiens, Mlle. Ilma de Murska, Mlle. Trebelli-Bettini, and M. Gardoni, Bohler, Bettini, Gunz, Santley, and Rokitsanski, from Her Majesty's Theatre. Among the singers not attached to either Opera, Mlle. Parepa, Miss Edith Wynne, Mlle. Leibhart, Miss Eleonora Wilkinson, Mlle. Enequist; M. Sims Reeves, Weiss, Jules Lefort, and Gustave Garcia rendered their services. The pianists of London were represented by Mlle. Arabella Goddard, Mlle. Mariot de Beauvoisin, Miss Eleanor Ward, Miss Ellen Bliss, Master F. Cowan, Mr. Lindsay Sloper, and Mr. Benedict himself. M. Wieniawski was the solo violinist, Signor Piatti the solo violoncellist, Mr. John Thomas the solo harpist, and Master Ernest Bonnay the solo xylophonist. Neither Mlle. Ilma de Murska nor Signor Mario was able to appear, but their absence, thanks to the multitude of the other vocalists engaged, was scarcely observed.

At Miss Edwards's concert on Thursday week, Mlle. Casita, a singer known some years since in London as Mlle. Gordosa, under which name she came out at the Royal Italian Opera as Leonora, in "Il Trovatore," made her appearance, and was much applauded in the air from the work just named. Miss Edwards, who has a double talent, played the pianoforte part in Mendelssohn's sonata, in B flat, for pianoforte and violoncello, and also sung with great taste the "Voi che Sapete" from "Figaro." Mlle. Parepa, M. J. Mottés, Mr. Renwick, and other well-known artists assisted.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT HALIFAX.—A fearful domestic tragedy is reported from Halifax, in Yorkshire. A carpet-weaver, named Ephraim Smith, about forty years of age, lived in a single room with his three children, a boy and two girls—thirteen, ten, and five years old respectively. On Saturday night last the son stayed out till eleven o'clock, and on his return found the door locked, and received no response to his knockings. He then entered by the window and found his sisters murdered and his father dead from a self-inflicted wound, by which the head was nearly separated from the body. The wretched man was previously considered respectable, and his conduct good and steady. His wife has been an inmate of an asylum for two years.

AN INTELLIGIBLE DOCUMENT.—At the Liverpool Police Court on Saturday last James Haley, having the appearance of a respectable farmer, was charged with having travelled from Hartford station to Edgchill without a ticket. In court, when asked what he had to say, he handed a document to Mr. Kehoe, and requested that it might be passed to the magistrates, as it would set all right in a moment. It was as follows:—"Mr. Hill went with me and her Ladyship in her carriage. Mr. James Haley, cattle-dealer, Northwich, has the privilege that no other man has in England, Ireland, or Scotland. Begs on your honour to sign this paper for me. Signed by Sir Humphrey Trafford. Signed by his Lordship Trafford. Signed Sir Brocklehurst Macefield. Can fine any man £500 that I'll catch anyone flogging cattle over in my dealing way." The document failed to convince the magistrates that the prisoner was privileged to travel free by rail, and they ordered him to pay 10s. and costs.

A REFORMED CONVICT.—Some years ago a man residing in St. Thomas's, Oxford, and known as "Mickey," was tried and convicted, under the name of John Morgan, for pocket-picking, Mr. Mallam being the solicitor for the prosecution. Upon the termination of his sentence, Morgan transferred the scene of his labours to Bedfordshire, and at the Quarter Sessions for that county held in January, 1863, under the name of John Wright, he was convicted of larceny from the person, and sentenced to penal servitude for four years. In consequence of his good conduct under discipline he was liberated from Portland on Tuesday last, with a ticket of leave, seven months of his sentence remaining unexpired. He was booked for Wolverhampton, at which town it would have been his duty to report himself to the superintendent of the police, in order that the money to which he was entitled from the Home Office might be transmitted to him. He arrived at the Oxford station of the Great Western Railway by the four o'clock down train from Didcot on Wednesday afternoon week, where he had to alight for change of train to convey him to his destination. In an evil moment he thrust his hand into the pocket of Mrs. Lydia Mallam (mother of the solicitor), who was standing upon the platform. She immediately seized his hand before he could release himself. He struggled violently, and most seriously assaulted the railway guard and the policeman who secured him, considerably difficulty that the city police at length overpowered him, and, under restraint, lodged him in the city gaol.

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FRY'S CHOCOLATE CREAMS ARE AN EXCEEDINGLY DELICIOUS SWEETMEAT, rapidly increasing in public favour.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA (more commonly called Epps's Homoeopathic Cocoa, as being prepared and introduced by J. Epps, the Homoeopathic Chemist first established in England). The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favourite. For breakfast, no other beverage is equally invigorating and sustaining.

"Purity and Excellence of Quality."

COLMANS' STARCH.—Prize Medals were awarded at the Great Exhibitions of 1851 and 1852, and also the Only British Medal at the Dublin Exhibition, 1865.—Sold by all Grocers and Druggists.—J. and J. Colman, London.

PURE PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, and Table Delicacies of the highest quality (see "Lancet" and Dr. Hensall's Report), may be obtained from all Grocers and Chemists, and Wholesale of the Manufacturer, M. CROSSE and BLACKWELL, Purveyors to the Queen, SOHO-SQUARE, LONDON.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL.—Where the general health is impaired and emaciation in progress, it serves Sir HENRY MARSH, Physician animating effects of a regular daily course of this oil on the system is most satisfactory. Its favourable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable change in all the vital functions.—Sold only in bottled Bottles, 3s. 6d., 4s. 9d., and 5s., by Dr. de Jongh's Agents, ASHAR, HARFORD and CO., 77, Strand, London, and Chemists

SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES.

In accordance with the annual custom at this season, nearly the whole of the Stock of Summer Silks, Dresses, Mantles, Shawls, Lace Goods, Parasols, &c., have been re-made, very much less than their original price. Ladies are respectfully invited to an inspection, or patterns will be forwarded.

PETER ROBINSON'S, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes a recent purchase of LIGHT FANCY SILKS (new patterns), 27 inches wide, ordered in the month of January, and now being sold at 1/4 to 3/4 guineas the Dress. If ordered at the manufacturer's present prices of Grey and Brown, the decrease of raw silk, could not be produced at less than 6d. to 9d. guineas.

Pattern-free.

Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes about 200 pieces of SILK FULARDS, at 1/4 to 2/4 guineas the Full Dress; guaranteed the best quality made, and recommended as the most pleasant wear for the present season.

Patterns free.

Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes some five or six hundred Dresses of those useful fabrics known as MEXICAN, NANKIN, and JAPANESE CLOTHS, at from 10s. to 15s. the Full Dress. Also Wool and Silk Gremadines, at 6s. 6d. to 8s. the Full Dress.

Patterns free.

Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes several hundred pieces of MOZAMBIQUE, a very desirable article, combining lightness with great durability. The whole are now being offered at 6d., 10s. 6d., and 12s. 6d. Full Dress.

Patterns free.—Peter Robinson, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

TRAVELLING and SEASIDE MANTLES

(Waterproofed).

Made with and without sleeves, detached Hoods, or Capes, in all shades of Grey and Brown, and in all the latest novelties.

These goods are specially prepared for this season.

Illustrations gratis.

PETER ROBINSON'S, 103 to 108, Oxford street, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes LIGHT TISSUE SHAWLS, both Woolen and Silk, for Summer Wear. These beautiful shawls are now much in demand, and admirable for the season. Many of them reduced as low as 2s. and 6s. each.

Patterns free.—Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes Lace Shawls, Bernouse, Rotonde, Jackets, &c. Every description of lace, both black and white, have been reduced to prices that will ensure a speedy sale. They range from 10s. upwards.—Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

PETER ROBINSON'S SALE OF SUMMER STOCK at REDUCED PRICES

Includes all that remain in Stock of Silk and Velvet Mantles, will also be offered for sale on the same advantageous terms. Prices will range from 10s. upwards.

Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, London, W.

FAMILY MOURNING

Is sent free for selection to all parts of England immediately, on receipt of "note or telegram," accompanied by a superior-fitting dressmaker (if necessary), affording to families by this means a great saving of time and expense.

Address PETER ROBINSON, General Mourning Warehouse, 256 to 262, Regent-street, W.

The largest and most economical Mourning Warehouse.

BLACK SILKS

at last Summer's Prices.

Purchased under value £20,000, of good and superior Quality.

Black Silks, from 2/4 to 6 guineas the Full Dress.

Also, a remarkably cheap Rich Black Silk, at 2s. 11/2d. per yard.

Patterns free at PETER ROBINSON'S Court Mourning Warehouse, 256 to 262, Regent-street.

UNTEARABLE BLACK GRENADINES

Barages, and Crapè Bazarines, by the yard, or made up into Skirts, in great variety and in the best taste. Patterns of the new and improved makes forwarded free.

PETER ROBINSON, General Mourning Warehouse, 256 to 262, Regent-street.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

BAKER and CRISP have made their ANNUAL REDUCTIONS, and Ladies will greatly study their interests to visit

194, Regent-street.

THE ARCADE, New Oxford-street.

CHEAP SUMMER DRESSES, a large and choice Stock, 6s. 9d. to 12s. 9d. for 13 yards.

NEW MUSLINS, 6s. 9d. to 12s. 11/2d. the Dress of 12 yards.

Patterns free.—HENRY GLAYE, "The Arcade," 534 to 537, New Oxford-street, W.C.

BLACK GLACÉ SILES, good quality,

2s. 3/4d., 2s. 6/4d., and 2s. 11/4d.; extra set out wide, 2s. 11/4d. and 4s. 11/4d. a yard.—Patterns free.—HENRY GLAYE, "The Arcade," 534 to 537, New Oxford-street, W.C.

UNDERCLOTHING for LADIES and CHILDREN.

The largest Retail Stock at Wholesale Prices. A List of Prices free.—HENRY GLAYE, "The Arcade," 534 to 537, New Oxford-street, W.C.

BERNOUS and ROTONDE MANTLES,

Beautiful designs, in real Yak Lace, 30s. to 8 guineas. Llama Grenadine, and other light textures, 6s. 11d. to 1 guinea; several hundred to choose from. A large lot of Tweed Circular Mantles, full set, part of a Manufacturer's Stock, all 4s. 11d. each, a 6 d. each.

HENRY GLAYE, "The Arcade," 534 to 537, New Oxford-street, W.C.

JOHN HARVEY and SON,

GLOUCESTER HOUSE, LUDGATE-HILL. Novelties in Silk Jackets and Mantles for the Season. Algerine Striped Bournois Cloaks, from 21s.

NEW FANCY SILKS, Patterns Free,

for Morning and Young Ladies' wear, 23s. 6d., and 23s. 11/2d. for 14 yards.

Plain and Striped Taffetas.

The Imperial Strip a new much admired.

Chêne and Broché Silks in Neutral and Dark Tints.

SPANISH LACE SHAWLS, from 18s. 6d.

Posner Lace Shawls, from 21s.

Yak, Limerick, and Brussels.

Rotonde, in Pouter and Yak Lace.

JOHN HARVEY and SON, Ludgate-hill.

MOIRES ANTIQUES.

SEWELL and CO. have the largest and best selection of Spitalfields Moires Antiques, in White, Black, and all the new Colours, at 4s. guineas the Full Dress.

Compton House, Fifth-street and Old Compton-st., Soho-sq., W.

ORGANDIE MUSLINS for JUNE.

SEWELL and CO. are selling a lot of very choice pattern Muslins from 9/4d. per yard; also a selection of several hundred pieces of French Chintz Muslins, at 12/4d. per yard, the usual price being 2s. 6d.—Compton House, Fifth-street, Soho-square, W.

LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING of best make,

at moderate prices. A Stock always on hand of Chemises, Nightdresses, Petticoats, Morning Robes, &c.

Price-books by post. Address "Ladies' Department," WHITELOCK and SON, 186, Strand.

INDIA OUTFITS and WEDDING TROUSSEAUX.

Newest styles, best work, and moderate prices. Price-books by post. WHITELOCK and SON, 186, Strand.

BOWS, Plaits, Braids, Bands, Wigs, Fronts,

&c., and every other description of Ornamental Hair, all of the first quality, of COLLEY Perfumer, Hairdresser, and Shampooer, 38, Bishopsgate-street Within. Established 75 years.

W. F. THOMAS and CO.'S New Patent

SEWING-MACHINES, producing work alike upon both sides, 25 to 40, Newgate-st., and Regent-st., Oxford-st., London.

COMPLETION of ALTERATIONS and EXTENSION of PREMISES.

JAMES SPENCE and CO. have much pleasure in making the above announcement to their numerous customers and the public, which has greatly increased the facilities for the transaction of their increasing trade.

J. S. and Co. are now offering, at much under the regular Price, several Lots of Silks, Fancy Dresses, Ribbons, &c., purchased for cash during the present depressed state of the money market, at in some instances 30 to 40 per cent discount off, to which they respectfully invite a special visit of inspection.

SILK DEPARTMENT.

New Fancy Silks, very bright, 2s. 11/2d. per yard; all new Colours, Rich new Stripes, 3s. 3d. per yard; regular Black Drap de Lyons, New wide Cheviots, 2s. 6d. per yard. Wide Black Drap de Lyons, 6d. per yard. 32-inch Black Glacé, 3s. 6d. per yard; worth 4s. 6d.

MANTLE, JACKET, and SHAWL DEPARTMENT.

All the Latest Novelties and Styles for the Season. Black Lace Circular Mantles, from 21s. Bernouse shape, 25s. 9d. upwards. Our Guinée Silk Jacket is worthy of special attention; also our Spanish and Pouter Lace Shawls, all Silk, 12s. 9d., 14s. 9d., and 16s. 9d.

FANCY-DRESS DEPARTMENT.

A choice Stock of wide Printed Alpaca, from 1s. 3/4d. Plain Alpaca, 12 yards, from 6s. 11d. Also, 56-inch Pure Alpaca, from 2s. 11/2d., in all Colours. All the new designs in Plain and Fancy Striped Poplins and Alpaca, from 11s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. Black and Light Green Grenadines, in all the latest novelties, from 1s. 3/4d. to 2s. 3d.

DRAPERY, RIBBONS, GLOVES, HOSIERY, LACE, HABERDASHERY, TRIMMINGS, SUN-SHADES, &c.

CLOSE ON SATURDAYS at Four o'clock.

JAMES SPENCE and CO., 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard, E.C.

SPECIAL PURCHASE of JACKETS.

Messrs. AMOTT and COMPANY will SELL, to-day and during the week, the following goods, purchased from a merchant in difficulties:—

650 Rich Gros Grain Jackets, originally £2, will be sold at £1 2s. 6d. each.

420 Handsomely-trimmed Jackets, in very rich silk, worth 3s., are marked 15s. 6d. each.

270 Paris-made Jackets, originally 4 guineas, are all marked 24 guineas.

700 Extra Rich Silk Jackets, in superb qualities, magnificently ornamented, real value £7, will be sold at 34 guineas each.

AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

CHEAP SUMMER DRESSES.

Real Alpaca, worth 12s. 9d., for 7s. 6d.

Glacé Taffeta, originally 15s., for 10s. 9d.

The new Stripes, worth 16s. 9d., for 11s. 11d.

Rich Cheviots for 12s. 9d., actual value, 21s.

Elegant French Muslins, 8s. 9d. to 16s. 9d. actual value from 16s. to 30s.

Beautiful Grenadines, 7s. 6d. to 1 guinea.

3000 striped Petticoats, 6s. 11d.; worth 14s. 6d.

Patterns post-free.

AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

CHEAP SUMMER DRESSES.

Real Silk Crystal Grenadines, originally 35s. 6d., are selling at 10s. 9d.

New Indian Tissues, very beautiful, 41s. 6d.; actual value, 2 guineas.

£2000 worth of Summer Textures, in eighty different descriptions, from 5s. 11d. 12 yards to 16s. 6d. 12s. yards, extraordinarily cheap.

Patterns post-free.

AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

CHEAP SUMMER SILKS.

Rich Checked Silks, worth 3s. 6d., for 2s. 4 1/2d. a yard.

Small Pattern Silks for Young Ladies, good qualities and colours, 2s. 6d. per yard.

Wedding Silks, worth 70s. 6d. for 23s. 6d.

Rich Plain Glacé Silks, 2s. 11d. per yard.

Figured and Corded Silks, 2 guineas 12 yards.

New Japanese Silks, 2 guineas 14 yards.

Patterns of all post free.

AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

CHEAP BLACK SILKS.

Rich Black Glacé, 14 guineas 15 yards.

Black Gros Grain Silks, worth 3s. 6d. for 2s. 11d.

Rich Black Corded Silks, worth 3 guineas, now selling at £2 7s. 6d. for 15 yards.

Several Hundred Sturge Dress Lengths, 1 to 2 guineas; worth double.

Patterns post-free.

AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 62, St. Paul's-churchyard.

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